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Entertainment
pg 30

New home for TIFF

Mom felt powerless

Khadr Gitmo video released

The mother of Omar Khadr could only sit helplessly and watch yesterday as her "tiny boy," accused in the death of a U.S. soldier in Afghanistan, cried out to her in a 2003 recording of a marathon Guantanamo Bay interrogation — her first glimpse of him in more than six years.

In an exclusive interview at the family's east-end Toronto home, Maha Elsamnah told The Canadian Press she felt powerless to intervene as she watched the video of Khadr, then just 16, weeping for his mother during an interview with a Canadian intelligence agent.

"My son is calling for me and I'm sitting here," said Elsamnah, by turns stoic and distraught as she described seeing Khadr for the first time since he was taken into U.S. military custody following a deadly firefight in Afghanistan in 2002.

"I cried. I said, 'O God, please answer his call. I can't answer.' I wish I can tell him. What can I do? I'm here. I wish he can hear me answering back."

Part of the video, recorded in February 2003, shows Khadr sobbing uncontrollably. At one point, he whimpers a mantra that sounds like "Help me," but which Elsamnah said were in fact an Arabic expression meaning, "Oh, mother."

"I always heard his call in my dreams," she said. "But I don't know if he hears me crying."

"I cried. I said, 'O God, please answer his call. I can't answer.' I wish I can tell him. What can I do? I'm here. I wish he can hear me answering back."
Maha Elsamnah

Sitting in her living room, Elsamnah said "the baby face" and "tiny boy" she saw in the grainy, out-of-focus video looked exactly the way he did when she last saw him.

That was a week or two before the clash in Afghanistan that left the 15-year-old badly wounded and near death. It was during that skirmish, U.S. authorities allege, that Khadr threw the grenade that killed an American medic, Sgt. Christopher Speer.

At another point during the interrogation, Khadr pleads for a chance to go back to Canada.

"There's not anything I can do about that," says the agent, whose identity is concealed from view.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More coverage

For more on the release of the Omar Khadr interrogation video, see page 7.

Caribana **Jump Up**

RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Flor Lucero of the Toronto Caribbean Connection dance group makes her way into Nathan Phillips Square yesterday. The 41st annual Caribana festival kicked off yesterday and the square was packed with people listening to music and watching some of the 100 or so Mas dancers. Story, page 3.

Barenaked Ladies' Steven Page busted in U.S. on cocaine charge

ARREST Barenaked Ladies front man Steven Page, known for his clean-cut image and goofy stage antics, has been charged in New York state with possession of cocaine.

Police said yesterday that the bespectacled singer, responsible for such pop hits as If I Had A $1,000,000 and Be My Yoko Ono, was charged last Friday with criminal possession of a controlled substance after cocaine and marijuana were found in an apartment in Fayetteville, N.Y.

Capt. Bill Bleyle of the nearby town of Manlius said the 38-year-old Page was released Friday upon paying $10,000 bail on the felony charge.

Page's manager, Terry McBride, said from Vancouver he wouldn't discuss the matter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rabbits hopping all over Toronto

WILDLIFE An explosion of Toronto's cottontail rabbits may be just what the doctor ordered for some ailing predators who are still struggling to recover from a deadly outbreak four years ago, conservation authorities say.

The reasons for that explosion: The ideal spring and winter weather and the timing of fuzzy bunnies' natural population cycle. Though the rabbits will probably be a source of frustration for gardeners, they are also a vital source of food for stealthy predators.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local page 03

Alleged affair at hospital leads to lawsuit

Beijing Games page 12

Brothers follow in footsteps

Automotive page 18

Checking out Batman's ride

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Man charged with sexual assault
An 18-year-old man allegedly used his position within his community to gain the trust of and then sexually assault three victims in Toronto between June 1 and July 1. Nyron Gill, of Toronto, has been charged. He appeared in court on July 9. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Robbery attempt with fake gun foiled

An employee at an Oakville gas station refused to hand over money to a suspected robber after a man walked into the Petro-Canada gas station on Royal Windsor Dr. in Oakville just after 2:30 a.m. yesterday. He pulled out a gold and black gun and demanded cash from the register. When the employee looked at the gun and figured out that it wasn't real, he refused to hand over any money. The suspect fled in a white vehicle. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Power plant planned for Mississauga

ENERGY Ontario's new energy minister will get the ball rolling on a power plant for Mississauga today after months of government indecision over where to put the potentially controversial operation, sources say.

George Smitherman, who took over the energy portfolio in a cabinet shuffle last month, will direct the Ontario Power Authority to line up a natural gas supply for a new plant and announce a process for deciding where it will go.

"It means a new plant," said a source close to the announcement, which will be made near the site of the old coal-fired Lakeview Generating Station demolished last year.

Mississauga City Council voted unanimously in February to approve a citizen-driven plan to build a $2 billion waterfront community on 200 hectares around the site.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Drugs

Health warning baffles company

ADVISORY The company that sells a legal alternative to street drugs which may be linked to the death of a clubgoer in Toronto says it does not understand why Health Canada has issued an advisory warning consumers not to use its products. Last Thursday, Canada's federal health agency sent out the advisory saying consumers should not use four "unauthorized" products sold by the company Purepillz: Peaq, Freq, PureRush and PureSpun. They are promoted as safer legal alternatives to more dangerous street drugs. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Long-horned beetle **Trees under attack**

JIM WILKES/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Howard Stanley of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency displays a female Asian long-horned beetle. About 45 foresters check trees in north Toronto and Vaughan each day to stem the spread of the beetle, which has forced cutting almost 30,000 trees in the past five years.

41st Caribana kicks off

In the midst of dazzling Caribbean costumes and passionate steel drum beats, the Scotiabank Caribana festival kicked off at Nathan Phillips Square yesterday.

"We are jumping higher than ever," said Joe Halstead, chair of the festival management committee.

"It is the biggest, the best and most fun Caribbean festival in North America," said Mayor David Miller. "It reflects who we are and allows us to show what a diverse city can be."

From now until Aug. 3, the 41st edition of Caribana will spice up the summer with performances by nearly 40 bands with 5,000 musicians offering calypso, steel pan, salsa, soca, reggae and other island rhythms.

300
million dollars was the money generated by Caribana in 2007, according to David Miller.

Caribana's usual forecast is in place for a million or more spectators. That will include hundreds of thousands visiting from south of the border, said Halstead.

This year's Caribana has some new twists, notably the Caribana Gala dinner at the Liberty Grand on July 25, a $150-a-ticket fundraiser honouring the festival's pioneers.

As always, though, the showcase event will be the grand parade Aug. 2 along Lake Shore Blvd W. Thousands of masqueraders in 15 mas bands will make the street journey along with scores of bands blasting out music on flatbed trucks.

The parade starts at 10 a.m. at Exhibition Place and runs west along Lake Shore Blvd. to Sunnyside for an approximate conclusion around 6 p.m.

A Caribana art exhibit — Roots to Rhythm — will be held July 25 to Aug. 4 in the Royal Ontario Museum. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Man sues hospital, nurse

Affair claimed in legal action

It started with an innocent game of chess between a patient and his nurse. But it quickly evolved.

Soon, the pair were having sex all over the hospital — in his room, the staff lounge, examination room.

But their clandestine encounters went beyond the walls of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health on Queen St. W. When permitted to leave the hospital for a few hours on a community pass, the good-looking 6-foot-3 patient met the woman at a nearby hotel.

Although she was married, their relationship lasted about two years and remained intact even after she was fired from CAMH — an incident he blamed himself for and, in an act of penance, jumped into oncoming traffic.

When she became pregnant last fall, he slipped into a depression, which again landed him in hospital.

It's an unusual tale that has been pieced together from his clinical notes, a CAMH report and an $850,000 lawsuit recently filed in an Ontario Superior Court.

The patient, identified only as John, is suing CAMH and the nurse, identified as Jane. The court has banned publication of their names to protect the identity of the child.

"I just know that she messed my head up pretty good." Patient John

"I just know that she messed my head up pretty good and that I've done things to myself that I never did before," John told Torstar News Service.

According to the statement of claim, John alleges Jane was negligent in her treatment when she failed to discourage a social relationship, refused to respect professional boundaries and neglected to consider the harm that would result from violating them.

The hospital, it alleges, failed to arrange for appropriate supervision, inspection and monitoring of John at his home. Had they checked on him, John says, they would have discovered her lingerie, strewn about his apartment.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

FIRE One man is dead after a fire ripped through an Oakville home early yesterday. Firefighters tried to rescue a man in a two-storey brick home at 223 Rebecca St. near Dorval Dr. and Lakeshore Rd. W. He was taken to Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, where he died from his injuries. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Couple robbed in Oakville
A couple walking their dog was attacked in Oakville on Monday. The man and woman were walking through a housing complex on Sixth Line just after 11 p.m., when they were confronted by three men who demanded money TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'Officers' battle ID perception

TTC special constables credited with helping keep growth in crimes down on transit

They confront the same weapons, the same kinds of assaults, theft, street drugs and drunks as regular Toronto police officers do.

As sworn peace officers, they have the power to issue tickets and make arrests for all manner of crimes, as well as for TTC bylaw infractions.

But the men and women who wear the blue uniform of Toronto's "other" police force battle a public perception that they're just glorified security guards.

"Our officers are very motivated, very professional, and it can be challenging if you're dealing with somebody who's questioning your authority," says the TTC's chief special constable, Terry Andrews.

The role of the TTC's 95 special constables came under scrutiny recently when an outside consultant began reviewing the job and its use-of-force requirements, including whether to arm constables.

Last week, the transit corps was credited with helping to keep the growth in crimes on the system to about 4 per cent — on pace with gains in ridership last year.

Transit police uphold the law on a system that carries 1.5 million riders daily — twice the size of Mississauga, says Sgt. Rick Stewart, who allowed the Toronto Star to join him on patrol recently.

Like all police, they spend a lot of time responding to routine calls, discouraging panhandling and loitering, answering questions and offering directions.

Even with teams stationed underground and in surface vehicles, they face a challenge to get to the scene before a problem disappears down the tunnel or out the nearest exit.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Making arrests

Unlike security guards, who can act only if they see a crime in progress, special constables can make arrests if they believe a crime has been committed on TTC property.

Livent accountants were clever, ex-controller says

COURT Livent accounting staff didn't think they would get caught cooking the books because their methods were so clever, a former controller for the theatre production company has told a fraud trial.

"We believed the nature of the manipulations we were doing were for the most part undetectable," Grant Malcolm testified told Ontario Superior Court yesterday.

Garth Drabinsky, 58, and Myron Gottlieb, 64, co-founders of Livent, have pleaded not guilty to fraud and forgery at what was once a live theatre production powerhouse.

Malcolm said his full-time job was to fraudulently manipulate Livent's accounts, a task requiring him to work weekends, evenings and sometimes through the night.

Defence lawyer David Roebuck asked Malcolm if he ever worried about the consequences for shareholders or the company. "I didn't dwell on it," he said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Toronto parks **Brightening the city with sunflowers**

TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

James Welsh, a welder for the City of Toronto at the Kipling Parks yard, stands in front of a sunflower he is building between work orders. Welders at the yard have created approximately 30 sunflower sculpture pieces, which are on display at Toronto's parks.

City council OKs Gardiner environmental assessment

The eastern section of the Gardiner Expressway may eventually be torn down, but a final decision on its future won't be made for years, probably by another crop of politicians.

In the course of a five-hour debate yesterday that ranged from questions about whether the entire elevated expressway would eventually be dismantled to talk of the glorious waterfront that could be, city council voted 30-11 to do an environmental assessment, which will take up to $11 million and four years to complete.

Waterfront Toronto and city officials will now spend about a year to set the scope of the study, which will include everything from traffic impact to cost.

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Car crash victim identified

The victim of a fatal car crash has been named as 51-year-old Joan Grys. She died on Monday in the middle of the busy intersection at Coxwell and Danforth Aves. after a black BMW ran a red light. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hotel workers walk out

Airport Radisson employees demand wage parity with area hotels

Delsie Morgan had 10 of her 14 suites cleaned at the Radisson airport hotel yesterday when she parked her cart, changed her clothes, signed out her keys and went on strike for the first time in her life.

MICHAEL STUPAR/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Members of Local 75 Unite Here protest in front of the Radisson airport hotel entrance yesterday on Dixon Road.

Morgan and the other Local 75 Unite Here workers walked out at noon for 12 hours to protest the last contract offer from the hotel. Their contract and that at the Holiday Inn down the street expired Friday. Although negotiations continue, the union wants wage parity with other hotels on the Dixon Road airport strip.

"We're supposed to be able to do a suite, with a bedroom and a living room and a bathroom and a kitchenette, in 20 minutes. Most days, I don't have time to take a break. We've made up our mind that we're going to fight for each other."

Morgan, who's worked at the Radisson for 16 years, contends conditions were decent until Westmont Hospitality Group took control several years ago. Westmont also operates the Holiday Inn Select, where a union action is planned for today. The two hotels employ 142 union workers.

Morgan and Alice Musnayac make $13.17 an hour as Radisson Suite Hotel room attendants, compared with $15 at other hotels. Musnayac sends the money back home to the Philippines, where her two children have grown up in the 19 years since she emigrated. She could last afford to visit them in 1997.

"Most days, I don't have time take a break. We've made up our mind that we're going to fight for each other."
Radisson employee Delsie Morgan

"We had to punch out on our way out so we would only get half pay for today," she said as about 35 co-workers circled the entrance chanting and banging pots and pans. The two hotels employ 134 union members.

Standing just outside the main door watching the pickets muster, hotel manager Peter Kingsbury would only say, "I have no comment on labour relations while they are bargaining."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Stabbing victim knew his attackers

CRIME A 64-year-old man who was stabbed to death in his midtown apartment Monday night knew his attackers and opened his front door to allow them inside, police said yesterday.

William Ross Magill may not have been friendly with the suspects, two men wearing dark hooded clothing, but he let them into his second-floor apartment.

"I do believe he opened the door for them," homicide Det. Dan Nielsen said yesterday. "What happened after that, we're still trying to determine. But this was targeted — not random."

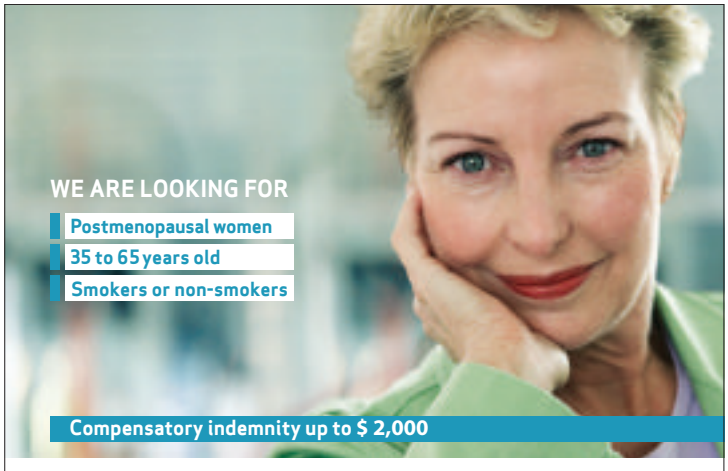
A 23-year-old man, a friend of Magill's who had been staying in the victim's apartment for at least a couple of days, called 9-1-1 around 10:45 p.m.

He told police he was in a different part of the rental unit when Magill was stabbed. He also told officers about the men he said he saw fleeing down the hallway.

Neilsen, who confirmed the young man was interviewed several times yesterday but is not a suspect in the crime, said cocaine was also found at the scene.

And while the detective said investigators have not uncovered a motive, they are considering several possibilities, including the possibility this was the result of a drug deal gone bad.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Via trains in two collisions

A woman has been killed in a collision between a van and a Via Rail passenger train near Stratford, Ont.

Provincial police say the crash occurred at about 9 a.m. yesterday east of the city near the town of Shakespeare.

Via Rail says the train was headed east to Kitchener and that warning signals at the rail crossing were working properly.

Passengers from the train have been transferred to buses to continue their trip to Kitchener.

Police say the woman was alone in the van, but have not yet released her age or hometown.

Also yesterday, a Via Rail train carrying more than 200 people hit a flatbed truck and partially derailed about 25 kilometres west of Brockville.

The locomotive and baggage cars at the front of the train derailed when it struck the truck loaded with heavy equipment.

DARCY CHEEK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Emergency personnel, railway officials and firefighters crowd CN tracks near Brockville following a collision between a Via Rail passenger train and a flatbed truck yesterday.

The train was carrying 207 passengers and seven crew members from Toronto to Montreal.

A few minor injuries were reported, with one passenger taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Might as well jump — to jail
Ontario Provincial Police have identified a man they believe posed as Van Halen front man David Lee Roth. Police say David Kuntz of Cambridge, Ont., identified himself as the rocker after being pulled over for speeding near Brantford, Ont., on May 23. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Khadr pleads for return in video

Lawyers for Omar Khadr are hoping a jailhouse video showing the boy calling out in despair after interrogation by a Canadian security agent will swing public support behind the effort to bring their client back to Canada.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maha Elsamnah, mother of Omar Khadr, rests her head on her hands yesterday as she speaks with The Canadian Press at their home in Toronto. Jailhouse video of Omar Khadr under interrogation by a Canadian spy service agent was released yesterday.

"All we can do is put the evidence that we received out before them and let (Canadians) rely on their own particular sense of conscience," said Dennis Edney. "Which one of us would wish our children to be treated as Omar Khadr?"

Yesterday, Edney and Nathan Whitling made a carefully orchestrated release of more than seven hours of video taken in February 2003 during four days of interrogation at the American-run Guantanamo Bay holding facility in Cuba. A short 10-minute "highlights" package selected by the lawyers was released in the early morning hours in time for morning TV and radio newscasts. The full package was released later in the day.

The video — made public under Canadian court orders — shows the teenager swinging from hope to defiance and then despair. He pleads vainly to return to Canada.

In the video, Khadr pulls his orange prison shirt over his head to show an unidentified agent of the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service the wounds he received during the firefight that led to his detention at the isolated U.S. naval base-turned-prison.

He complains about medical treatment he has received. Eventually, left alone in the bare interrogation room, he holds his head in his hands and weeps. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Watch footage at metronews.ca

Watch extended video selections from Omar Khadr's interrogation at *metronews.ca*.

Drugs are country's biggest blight: Stats

Drug use and drug dealing were commonly seen by Canadians as the biggest problem plaguing their neighbourhoods, according to a study released yesterday by Statistics Canada.

The report looked at Canadians' perception of signs of crime across 12 major cities.

Signs of crime included physical crime, such as graffiti, litter and vandalism, and social crime, such as loud parties, public drunkenness and prostitution.

Drugs
Between 9 and 19 per cent of people deemed drug dealing and drug use the biggest blight on their neighbourhood.

Overall, 9 per cent of people living in Canada's 12 largest cities saw garbage or litter lying around to be a problem in their neighbourhood.

The study was based on data collected in the 2004 General Social Survey monitoring changes and emerging trends in Canadian society.

Statistics Canada social science researcher Leslie-Anne Keown said the survey was the first of its kind asking in-depth questions concerning perception of signs of crime at a national level. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Politics

Official testifies on Tory spending

INVESTIGATION The Conservatives were the only party in the last two federal elections to conduct the kind of expense transfers with candidates that led to an investigation by the federal elections commissioner and a search-warrant raid on Tory headquarters, says Canada's chief electoral officer.

In his first public comment about thousands of dollars in cash transfers to 67 candidates, Marc Mayrand indicated the transactions may eventually put the Conservatives in violation of election spending limits by more than $1 million. Mayrand also disclosed during four hours of testimony that the cost to taxpayers for the commissioner's investigation and the court case is now approaching $800,000. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blackout leaves parts of Vancouver without power

ELECTRICITY A massive power blackout in Vancouver's downtown core that left residents and hotel guests in the dark and shut down local businesses was expected to stretch into a third day for some customers.

The power went out Monday morning when a fire in an underground vault knocked out electricity for more than 2,000 B.C. Hydro customers, about a quarter of the city's downtown.

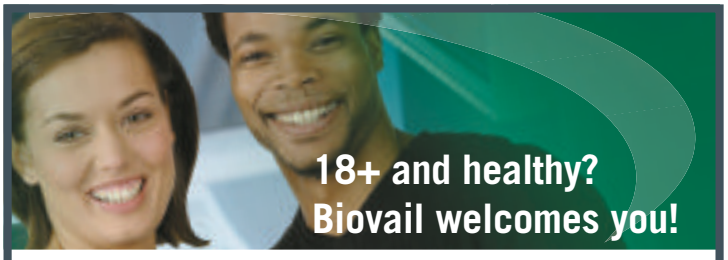
Only half the affected customers had their lights back by yesterday afternoon, and crews planned to work into the night.

But some areas weren't expected to have the power restored until at least the end of the day today, said Gary Rodford, B.C Hydro's vice-president of field operations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

FOOD Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz announced in Cornwall, Ont., that new food labelling rules come into effect on Jan. 1, 2009, and apply to all foods produced from that day forward. Under the new rules, foods labelled as a Canadian product must contain "all or virtually all contents" that are from Canada.

DEPORTED A U.S. Army deserter who fled to Canada three years ago has been deported to America to face possible court martial or a return trip to Iraq. The Canada Border Services Agency confirmed yesterday that Robin Long was removed from British Columbia. THE CANADIAN PRESS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Massachusetts repeals law prohibiting out-of-state marriage

The Massachusetts Senate has voted to repeal a 1913 law used to bar out-of-state gay couples from marrying in the state The law prohibits couples from obtaining marriage licenses if they couldn't legally wed in their home states. THE CANADIAN PRESS

World

No. 1 need

Builders of the United States' next spaceship, the new Orion space capsule that would eventually take astronauts to the moon, is seeking urine from workers at the Johnson Space Center in Houston — 30 litres a day, even on weekends. They want to test systems to get rid of stored urine while in space. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Twin Iraq blasts target recruits

U.S. downplays attacks

Scattered sandals and overturned bicycles were all that remained hours after suicide bombers struck the Iraq Saad military camp yesterday.

The twin blasts in Baqouba recalled the scenes of mass terror and grief that were almost a daily routine before last year's steep decline in violence.

In an old tactic of Sunni extremists, two suicide bombers set off explosives among the army recruits, killing at least 28. Violence also flared yesterday in the northern city of Mosul, where a dozen people died in bombings that targeted the Iraqi police and army.

"I don't think this changes the security situation. It's just an isolated incident. This is the way al Qaeda grabs attention"
U.S. Maj. Jay Gentile.

"I don't think this changes the security situation. It's just an isolated incident. This is the way al Qaeda grabs attention," said Maj. Jay Gentile, with the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment.

It was the bloodiest attack in Iraq since June 17. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistan **Inflation protest**

KHALID TANVEER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistani workers beat their chests and shout anti-government slogans yesterday during a protest rally against the price hike in food items, in Multan, Pakistan. Pakistan's inflation reached an all-time high of 21.53 per cent in June.

Lawyer calls bomb plot 'childish'

BRITAIN The alleged ringleader of a plot to blow up transatlantic jetliners in mid-air is guilty only of planning a childish stunt to make a political point, his lawyer said yesterday.

Abdullah Ahmed Ali

Lawyer Nadine Radford said Abdullah Ahmed Ali, 27, has acknowledged planning to release anti-Western videos and detonate explosives at a high-profile location as part of a campaign to change the British government's policy toward the Muslim world but that it is not murder, she said at his trial. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Notorious killer to be traded for Israelis

LEBANON Lebanese Samir Kantar killed three other people in one of the most notorious attacks in Israeli history.

Three decades later, he is about to be freed in exchange for two Israeli soldiers whose capture set off a month-long Mideast war.

The swap is set to take place this morning after the Israeli cabinet's overwhelming approval of the deal. In addition to handing over Kantar, Israel will release four Lebanese prisoners and hand over the bodies of 199 fighters killed in clashes over the years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Theme park ride collapse leaves 30 people injured

TOURISTS A theme park ride has collapsed in western Sweden, injuring 30 people — mostly tourists. Several people were thrown out of the swinging Rainbow ride at the Linsberg theme park in Goteborg and squeezed as the seating platform tipped to one side.

Police spokeswoman Malin Sahlstrom says the injuries ranged from bone fractures to shock. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

DRUG SMUGGLERS The U.S. Navy says coalition warships have seized 30 tons of narcotics over five months while on Gulf patrols, cutting off possible funds for insurgents in Afghanistan.

MANSON FAMILY California parole officials are considering compassionate release for Susan Atkins, a former follower of Charles Manson, who is dying of brain cancer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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U.S. Airlines to begin selling ads on boarding passes
Several major U.S. airlines will begin displaying ads on boarding passes for customers who check in from home. Customers can print the boarding passes without ads if they want. Delta Air Lines was the first to begin using the ads yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

DOLLAR		OIL	
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	US$ $1.0023	$6.44	

Housing prices

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE PHOTO

For Sale signs in Toronto.

First decline in nearly a decade

VULNERABLE Housing prices fell for the first time since January 1999. In June, the residential price of a home slipped by 0.4 per cent, according to the Canadian Real Estate Association.

Formerly hot western cities such as Calgary and Edmonton are responsible for the drop. Prices are now down by 4.3 per cent.

In the Toronto area, prices increased by 4 per cent but June sales were down by a steep 18 per cent to 8,600 compared to 10,451 last year, the Toronto Real Estate Board said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bank of Canada

Interest rates stay at 3 per cent

ECONOMY The Bank of Canada expects inflation will rise above its target 1-to-3 per cent range early next year and peak at 4 per cent, but kept its interest rate unchanged at 3 per cent yesterday over concerns the economy is slumping deeper and growth will slow to 1 per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

GM head office staff next to go

Automaker eyes 20% labour cost reduction

Hundreds of General Motors Canada head office staff may be laid off over the next several months as part of a restructuring effort to get the automotive giant back to profitability.

The company said yesterday that it plans to reduce labour costs for salaried workers by 20 per cent, further slash truck production and eliminate its quarterly dividend.

"We don't have a figure yet, but the initial thinking is that this may be modest."
Stew Low

GM CEO Rick Wagoner told employees in Detroit the automaker would also offer buyout and early retirement packages and freeze base pay for salaried employees through 2009.

The goal to save $15 billion US in costs worldwide by the end of 2009 will ultimately have an impact on Canada, said General Motors spokesperson Stew Low. "The numbers could be in the hundreds or even less. We don't have a figure yet, but the initial thinking is that this may be modest." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Failed bank **Long wait for cash**

NICK UT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anxious customers wait to get their money back yesterday from IndyMac Bank in Encino, Calif., creating a Depression Era-like scene. U.S. regulators seized the failing bank Friday, the second-largest financial institution to close in U.S. history.

EU eyes text messages cost cap

CHAT The top telecommunications regulator for the European Union believes mobile phone companies are taking advantage of teenagers' addiction to chatting in text messages.

Viviane Reding said yesterday that a limit should be placed on the cost of international texts. The telecoms commissioner said she wanted to see roaming fees for text messages fall by up to 70 per cent.

Europeans travelling outside their home nations send 2.5 billion text messages every year — paying 10 times more than they do at home. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

CUTS Sharpie pen maker Newell Rubbermaid said it would lay off workers, stop making some basic products and raise prices on others as much as 22 per cent as it grapples with rising energy costs that make plastic more expensive. Items affected include the iconic Rubbermaid line of storage bins and organization gear. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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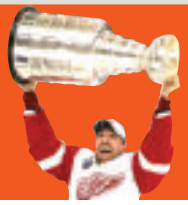
NHL

The Wachovia Spectrum, the former home to the Philadelphia 76ers and Flyers, will close and be demolished next year. The arena is 42 years old. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Sports



Drake calls it a career

Detroit Red Wings forward Dallas Drake, left, announced his retirement yesterday, a month after raising the Stanley Cup for the first time in his 16-year career. Drake has 177 goals, 300 assists and 885 penalty minutes in 1,009 regular-season games with the Red Wings, St. Louis Blues and the Winnipeg/Phoenix franchise. The Canadian Press

SPORTS EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Garcia eyes first major

With Tiger away, Spaniard primed to capture Open title

In betting parlours and inside the ropes, Sergio Garcia has never had greater odds of winning a major.

MATT DUNHAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sergio Garcia of Spain stops for a "snack" on the ninth green during practice for the British Open yesterday at the Royal Birkdale golf course in Southport, England.

No one has more top-10 finishes in the British Open this decade than Garcia, who has gone into the final round within four shots of the lead six times in the last seven years. He is considered among the best ball-strikers in golf. He is not lacking imagination or creativity for the variety of shots required on links courses.

And it sure doesn't hurt that Tiger Woods isn't around.

"When you don't have the No. 1 player in the world playing here — and, obviously, we know how good he is and how well he's done in the majors — it gives you a little bit more of a chance," Garcia said Tuesday. "But it doesn't mean that it's yours to win."

Open facts

- Site: Southport, England.
- Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
- Course: Royal Birkdale Golf Club (7,173 yards, par 70).
- Purse: $8.24 million US. Winner's share: $1,487,000.
- FedEx Cup points: 27,500. Winner's share: 4,950.
- Television: TSN (Thursday-Friday, 7 a.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m.; Sunday, 6 a.m.) and ABC (Saturday, 9 a.m. Sunday, 8 a.m.).

The British bookmakers believe otherwise.

Woods had season-ending knee surgery after winning the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines for his 14th career major, leaving the British Open up for grabs. Bookies have installed Garcia as the favourite at Royal Birkdale, with odds as low as 8-1.

There was a reason for such high hope, even before Woods began to wobble on one leg.

Garcia ended a three-year victory drought in May when he captured The Players Championship in a sudden-death playoff over Paul Goydos, despite taking 18 more putts in regulation. Two weeks ago, he finished strong to finish runner-up at the French Open.

"I feel like my game is probably as good as it's ever been," he said. "I don't feel complete, but I feel like I'm closer."

Among majors, no place feels like home more than the British Open.

Garcia has felt the affection of these galleries since he was an 18-year-old amateur at Royal Birkdale in 1998, when he tied for 25th. The Spaniard thrives on emotion, and the reception he gets throughout Britain only makes him play better.

"They've been very good to me," he said. "And that always helps."

Garcia is considered among the best players to have never won a major, but perhaps not for long.

The title used to belong to Phil Mickelson, who was far more accomplished before he finally broke through at the 2004 Masters. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Favre is tempted to attend Packers' camp

Brett Favre says he's tempted to show up at the Green Bay Packers' training camp just to call the team's "bluff."

JAMIE SQUIRE/GETTY IMAGES

Brett Favre's days of wearing the green and gold of the Green Bay Packers may just be at an end.

In the second part of an interview with Fox News, the 38-year-old quarterback said he knows his arrival in camp would cause a media circus, but that might not stop him. Packers players are scheduled to report July 27.

"It's tempting just to, as everyone said, you know, call their bluff or whatever," Favre said, according to an excerpt provided to The Associated Press. "I think it's going to be a circus in itself already, whether I go there, whatever."

The interview on the show On The Record With Greta Van Susteren was to be broadcast last night.

Favre, a three-time MVP, says he feels "a little bit" bad for would-be successor Aaron Rodgers and insists he doesn't want to be a distraction to his teammates. Or are they his former teammates?

"I like my teammates," Favre said. "I had a lot of fun with them. I have talked to numerous guys throughout this whole ordeal. I wish them the best, I really do. I hold nothing against those guys. We had a lot of fun together. We had, it was an amazing year last year. I don't want to make it any worse than it is." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

McGowan gets good news

MLB A second opinion brought more good news for Blue Jays starter Dustin McGowan, as specialist Dr. Timothy Kremchek agreed with an initial diagnosis that a tear in the right-hander's shoulder is unchanged from last year.

There is still no firm timetable for McGowan's return and he is to meet with Kremchek later this week for a followup exam, a team spokesman said.

General manager J.P. Ricciardi said last week that McGowan would miss at least a month.

McGowan came out of a start last Tuesday after just 66 pitches and four innings, saying the pain in his shoulder was too strong.

McGowan

It was later revealed that a tear in his rotator cuff was discovered last season, a not uncommon occurrence, and that his prognosis would depend on whether it had expanded or not. There are no plans for surgery at this time. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Sports in brief

MMA Former mixed martial arts light heavyweight champion Quinton "Rampage" Jackson was arrested yesterday after a series of collisions allegedly involving the pickup truck he was driving. Jackson was booked for investigation of felony evading, hit and run and reckless driving, according to Lt. Paul Dondero of the Costa Mesa Police Department. Bail was set at $25,000 US. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

RACING West Hill's Paul Tracy will compete in Edmonton's inaugural IndyCar open-wheel race on July 26. Tracy hasn't been in a competitive open-wheel race since finishing 11th at April's Champ Car finale in Long Beach, Calif. The 39-year-old was left without a ride this spring when his Forsythe team decided not to join the IndyCar circuit in the merged openwheel series. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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CFL
Eric Tillman is staying put. The Grey Cup-champion Saskatchewan Roughriders signed their general manager to a contract extension yesterday that will keep Tillman with the CFL club through the 2010 season. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Lumsden making history

Ticats running back dominating like no other Canadian

YorkReport

Marty York
marty.york@metronews.ca

Some time in the second quarter of the Tiger-Cats' loss to the Saskatchewan Roughriders the other day, as I sat in the upper deck of Ivor Wynne Stadium on one of those barbaric backless benches (ouch!), it occurred to me that there has never in CFL history been a Canadian running back quite as dominant as Hamilton's Jesse Lumsden is these days.

And I mean never ever.

"He's an animal," observed linebacker JoJuan Armour of the Calgary Stampeders. "He's one of the best backs I've ever seen. He has the body of a guy that will run through you, but he can still make you miss and run past you. (With) a combination of talent like that, any back will be dangerous."

Playing a position that has been almost exclusively reserved for U.S. dudes, Lumsden has become so dangerous that, after the first three weeks of the regular season, he leads the CFL in rushing with 362 yards on 48 carries. That's an eyebrow-raising average of 7.5 yards a carry — in a pass-happy league.

The Ticats have more than doubled their scoring total from the corresponding period last year — they've produced 70 points this season compared to a mere 34 in their first three games of 2007 — and Lumsden is primarily responsible for that.

Jesse Lumsden

3 The number of consecutive games the Edmonton Eskimos would win by beating Toronto Sunday. Edmonton last won three consecutive in the 2005 post-season, en route to the Grey Cup championship.

The 6-foot-2, 226-pounder from Burlington, Ont., has four touchdowns.

• Other prominent Canadian backs?

Couldn't think of many, frankly, so Googled "Running backs from Canada." Found zilch. Did pick up ample information, however, about an old CD from The Guess Who, called Running Back Thru Canada.

• Lumsden, incidentally, missed the Ticats' practice Monday because of general soreness. Detractors think the 28-year-old may be injury-prone. And might fumble too often … The Ticats are nine-point underdogs for their game in Calgary tomorrow … The Stamps lead the CFL in penalties (30) … From B.C. GM/coach Wally Buono, after his Lions recorded their first 2008 victory by trouncing the Blue Bombers last week: "It's about time." … Inconsistent quarterback Jarious Jackson passed for 340 yards and five TD passes in Winnipeg, prompting the Lions to drop plans to pursue another QB in trade talks … The Lions are seven-point favourites for their Friday rematch against Winnipeg in Vancouver … Despite their recent mediocrity, the Argonauts are three-point favourites over the Edmonton Eskimos for their Sunday rematch in Toronto … My back's sore.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

Brennan's honour eclipses TFC's defeat

INDEPENDIENTE 1 TFC 0

SOCCER Pessimists who follow Toronto FC will point out that last night's 1-0 loss to Argentine club Independiente means TFC is winless in more than a month.

The optimists will tell you the match was a meaningless exhibition played by backups, and expect a full-strength TFC squad to host San Jose Saturday night.

But both camps can agree that two other developments — Jim Brennan's all-star selection and reports of a Paul Dickov signing — overshadowed everything that happened on the field last night, even after Independiente's Pablo Vitti scored the game winner with 68th-minute header.

Last week Major League Soccer's deputy commissioner Ivan Gazidis said it would be "crazy" not to include a Toronto FC player on its squad when the MLS all-stars face West Ham at BMO Field.

Brennan

Yesterday all-star head coach Steve Nicol did the sane thing and added a pair of Canadians — Brennan and Houston goalkeeper Pat Onstad — to the squad that will play West Ham United next Thursday. MLS commissioner Don Garber later added a third Canadian, Houston midfielder and Scarborough native Dwayne De Rosario.

About the same time MLS made Brennan's all-star status official, Sports Illustrated's website reported that TFC had finally signed former Manchester City striker Paul Dickov to an 18-month deal worth $500,000. But TFC director of soccer Mo Johnston denied any signing.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Sports in brief

SOCCER Two-time FIFA World Player of the Year Ronaldinho transferred to AC Milan yesterday, leaving FC Barcelona after the club's new coach declared the team would plan for next season without the Brazilian.

NBA The Los Angeles Clippers have acquired centre Marcus Camby from the Denver Nuggets in exchange for a future second-round draft pick. Camby led the NBA in blocked shots with 3.61 per game last season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOTTERIES

Ontario Pick 3	4 2 7
Ontario Pick 4	0 7 2 8
Encore	3432976
Daily Keno	3, 5, 16, 17, 25, 28, 34, 35, 40, 42, 44, 45, 46, 49, 55, 61, 65, 66, 69, 70

Results not official

SCOREBOARD

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	57	40	.588	—
Tampa Bay	55	39	.585	½
N.Y. Yankees	50	45	.526	6
TORONTO	**47**	**48**	**.495**	**9**
Baltimore	45	48	.484	10

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Sox	54	40	.574	—
Minnesota	53	42	.558	1½
Detroit	47	47	.500	7
Kansas City	43	53	.448	12
Cleveland	41	53	.436	13

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Angels	57	38	.600	—
Oakland	51	44	.537	6
Texas	50	46	.521	7½
Seattle	37	58	.389	20

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	52	44	.542	—
N.Y. Mets	51	44	.537	½
Florida	50	45	.526	1½
Atlanta	45	50	.474	6½
Washington	36	60	.375	16

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Cubs	57	38	.600	—
St. Louis	53	43	.552	4½
Milwaukee	52	43	.547	5
Cincinnati	46	50	.479	11½
Pittsburgh	44	50	.468	12½
Houston	44	51	.463	13

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Arizona	47	48	.495	—
L.A. Dodgers	46	49	.484	1
San Francisco	40	55	.421	7
Colorado	39	57	.406	8½
San Diego	37	58	.389	10

LAST NIGHT'S GAME
All-Star Game (at New York)
National League vs. American League

TONIGHT
No games scheduled

TOMORROW'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Detroit at Baltimore, 7:05

NATIONAL LEAGUE
N.Y. Mets at Cincinnati, 7:10
San Diego at St. Louis, 8:15
Pittsburgh at Colorado, 9:05

AL BATTING LEADERS

Name, team	AB	R	H	AVG
Kinsler Tex	398	84	134	.337
Morneau Min	365	55	118	.323
Mauer Min	301	58	97	.322
Damon NYY	313	50	100	.319
Bradley Tex	269	55	85	.316
Pedroia Bos	395	67	124	.314
Youkilis Bos	328	56	103	.314
Rodriguez NYY	279	53	87	.312
Hamilton Tex	377	60	117	.310
Grudzielanek KC	288	34	89	.309

NL BATTING LEADERS

Name, team	AB	R	H	AVG
Jones Atl	296	55	112	.378
Pujols StL	282	48	100	.355
Berkman Hou	331	77	115	.347
Holliday Col	305	52	103	.338
Theriot ChiC	342	52	110	.322
Nady Pgh	300	43	95	.317
Guzman Wash	400	54	126	.315
Molina StL	272	21	85	.312
Ramirez Fla	373	80	116	.311
Atkins Col	364	55	112	.308

CFL

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Montreal	2	1	0	4
Hamilton	1	2	0	2
TORONTO	**1**	**2**	**0**	**2**
Winnipeg	0	3	0	0

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	GB
Saskatchewan	3	0	0	6
Edmonton	2	1	0	4
Calgary	2	1	0	4
B.C.	1	2	0	2

WEEK 4

TOMORROW'S GAME
Hamilton at Calgary, 9

FRIDAY'S GAME
Winnipeg at B.C., 10

SATURDAY'S GAME
Montreal at Saskatchewan, 7

SUNDAY'S GAME
Edmonton at **TORONTO**, 4

SOCCER

GAMES FEATURING TORONTO FC:

LAST NIGHT'S RESULT
Independiente 1 **TORONTO** 0

SATURDAY'S GAME
San Jose at **TORONTO**, 3

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Media

CBC executives say more than 2,400 hours of television, radio programming and live streaming of events online will make this year's coverage the most in-depth ever available to Canadians. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Beijing Games

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

MARK DADSWELL/GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO

Gyorgy Kolonics of Hungary.

Canoeing champ dies

Gyorgy Kolonics, a canoeing gold medallist at the 1996 and 2000 Olympics, died yesterday after collapsing in his canoe while training for the Beijing Games. He was 36.

He lost consciousness and paramedics were unable to resuscitate him, the Hungarian Olympic Committee said. The committee cited heart failure as the probable cause of death.

"Kolonics was a true legend of Hungarian sports, an athlete at the peak of his career who was in a class by himself," committee president Pal Schmitt said in a statement.

Kolonics was training for next month's Games, which would have been his fifth Olympics.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tomorrow's lineup

CAPTAIN CANADA Ian Millar, the 61-year-old dean of Canadian riders, has eight Olympics under his belt. Millar — also known as Captain Canada — will equal the record of Austrian sailer Hubert Raudaschl with a ninth appearance at the 2008 Beijing Games. Pick up tomorrow's Metro for more.

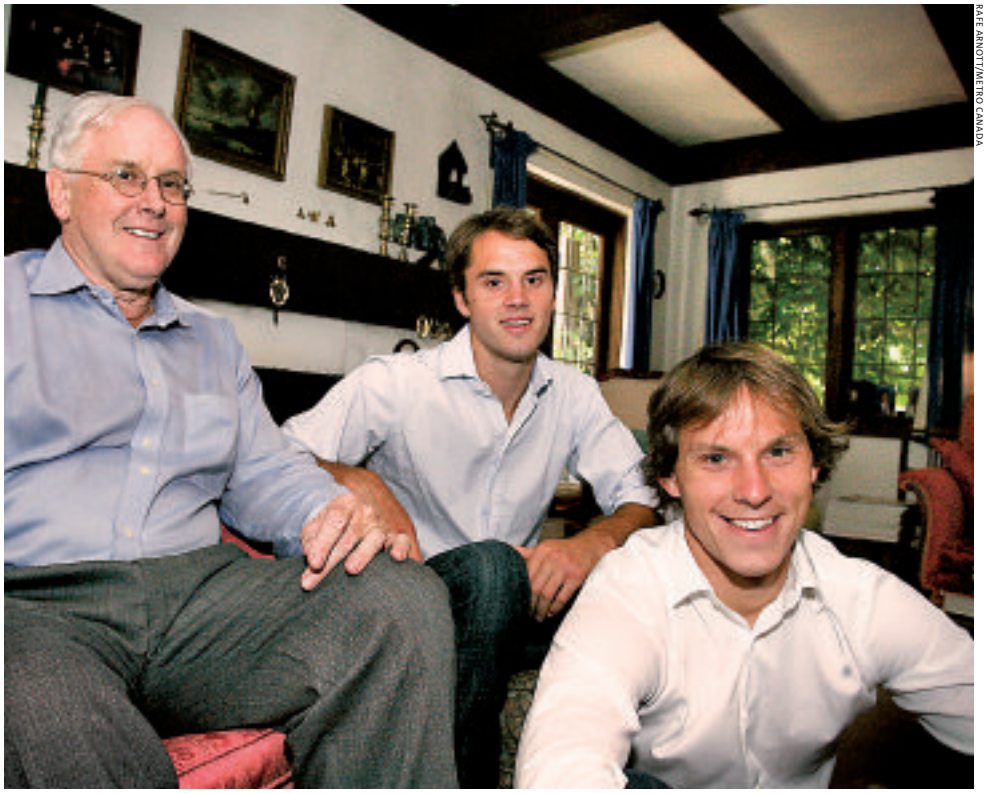
22 days remain until the official start of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing.

On the Wright track

Beijing-bound brothers following in family footsteps cemented in '32

TIM WIECLAWSKI
Metro Canada

For Anthony and Philip Wright, the Olympics are a family tradition stretching all the way back to 1932.



RAFE ARNOTT/METRO CANADA

Lee Wright, from left, along with sons Andrew and Phillip, relax in their Vancouver living room. They represent two of the three generations of Wrights who have competed in the Olympics for Canada.

This summer, the field hockey playing brothers will be following in the footsteps of their mother, father and grandfather when they represent Canada on sport's biggest stage.

"We're all excited, but not so much nervous, not yet," Anthony, 23, told Metro with the Games looming. "It's going to be a pretty unique and special opportunity. We have everything to gain and nothing to lose."

This is the first Olympics for both brothers. Anthony's coaches say he is a prototypical defenceman, with exceptional endurance and great on-field vision, who has earned 70 national team appearances.

"He can run for days and he tackles hard," said Shiaz Virjee, who coaches at the University of British Columbia. "He's one of the guys that you don't want to match up against."

Philip, 21, is an attacker with good speed. He's arguably the fastest player in the program. He was recovering from an injury leading up to the team selection and was chosen as a team reserve. He will be travelling to Beijing, but will only play if one of the other players is injured.

"He's a young kid," said national team manager Ajay Dube.

"He's coming along and becoming more of a player on his own and will probably represent Canada for years. Now is just possibly not his time."

In the buildup to the Games, their mother, Thelma, has been offering them both inspirational advice — urging them to drink in the experience and make the most of the occasion, even though being third-generation Olympians has meant they are singled out for added attention.

"The pressure is hard for them because they just want to be team players," she said.

Thelma knows the pressure of competing at the highest level. She ran for Canada in the 1,500 metres at the 1972 Munich Olympics and at the 1976 Games in Montreal.

"It's going to be a pretty unique and special opportunity. We have everything to gain and nothing to lose."
Anthony Wright

The boys' father, Lee, also competed at the Montreal Olympics. It was his second Games as a member of the Canadian field hockey team. His previous time was in 1964 in Tokyo.

"We were competing in Montreal when my father was the president of the Canadian Olympic Association, so that made it a special event for us. It was a family event," said Lee.

His father, Harold Wright, was a sprinter for Canada in the 1932 Olympics.

But while their pedigree is impeccable, in five previous Olympic Games no member of the Wright family has been able to return home with a medal.

Though the men's field hockey team's best placing was 10th at the 2000 Olympics, Anthony remains optimistic Team Canada could yet pull off an upset.

"Tournaments are a funny thing and if you get on a roll, anything is possible," he said. "We're not favoured to win any medals, but I wouldn't put it out of the question."

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London Games
Radioactive material was found at the main site to be used for the London 2012 Olympics, requiring one million tons of soil to be decontaminated. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing Games countdown

Felicien runs out of time in bid for Games

Perdita Felicien made it official yesterday morning: She's given up hope of competing at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

MARTIN ROSE/GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO
Perdita Felicien has officially withdrawn from the Games.

The Pickering hurdler, a world champion in 2003 and silver medallist at last year's worlds, had to withdraw because the foot injury she suffered during training last February didn't leave her enough time to have a chance of being competitive in China.

"I tried as best as I could but just ran out of time," she said on a conference call yesterday morning.

Felicien said she made the decision late last week in consultation with her doctors and family.

"I'm going to take the advice of my medical team and focus more on my fitness and health."

Felicien said the risk was not so much to her foot but to other parts of her body that are as not as well conditioned as normal.

"It's been a hard decision to come to but I feel good about it, feel confident about it, feel at peace. ... I worked hard to have a different outcome but at the end of the day, the doctors know best."

Felicien said she'll focus on next year's world championships now.

"The Olympics are the biggest stage but not the only stage. Of course, I'm disappointed. It's not an easy decision to come to, but it's a decision that will allow me to have so many more races ahead of me if I look at the bigger picture down the line."

She had to spend four weeks on crutches to keep weight off her injured foot. Originally diagnosed as a sprain, it was later revealed there was ligament damage and a small fracture.

She had resumed training in Toronto, but was only recently able to start hurdling again and was given an injury exemption from the recent Olympic trials in Windsor. She had until July 22 to achieve the B standard of 13.11 seconds for the women's 100-metre hurdles.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Halifax singer going to Games

DEAN LISK
Metro Canada

It's not the same as competing at the Summer Olympics, but for a musician it's even better.

Halifax singer Jon Mullane's song Make You Move is being used by NBC Television in a promo ad that will air on late night television leading up to the start of the Games.

"Personally, it is very fulfilling. Professionally, this is fantastic because I am getting my music exposed to the U.S.," said Mullane — not to be confused with In-Flight Safety singer John Mullane.

"When they heard Make You Move, they loved it, and they saw some action on the airwaves in Canada and wanted to use it right away. It is a fun, upbeat, party rock song. Not too serious." Make You Move is one of five songs being used by the network, and — from Mullane's understanding — it is the only one by a Canadian artist.

They will begin airing tonight during shows like Late Night With Conan O'Brien and The Tonight Show With Jay Leno.

Mullane said he has to give some credit for his recent success to the Atlantic Film Festival's Music & Image program. It offers local musicians an opportunity to meet with film and TV music supervisors.

"I was getting discouraged because I have been doing it since 2003," Mullane said. "I did meet with the NBC rep that year — and I was thinking, 'This is no good. Half the people are coming for the paid vacation essentially.'"

Halifax-based musician Jon Mullane has a song being used by NBC in its Olympic promos.

He had an opportunity to meet with two NBC representatives last year, including the woman in charge of the promos. Mullane stayed in touch with her after the meeting.

"It took a long time for an overnight thing," he said.

See the promo

You can view the NBC Olympic promo featuring Jon Mullane's song Make You Move at *www.vimeo.com/1325012*, or visit *www.jonmullane.com*.

Canada opens qualifier with loss to Slovenia

BASKETBALL Canada dropped its opener at the Olympic men's basketball qualifier yesterday in Athens and now faces a must-win game against South Korea.

Jaka Lakovic had a game-high 19 points to lead Slovenia to an 86-70 win over the Canadians, who must beat South Korea today in order to advance to Friday's quarterfinals.

Former Raptors centre Rasho Nesterovic had 14 points and nine rebounds for Slovenia. Rowan Barrett replied with 16 points to lead Canada.

The top three teams in the 12-team event earn a berth at the Beijing Games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Coach to be named

Melody Davidson is expected to be named head coach of the Canadian women's hockey team for the next two years heading into the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Beijing Games countdown

Canada drops qualifier

Coming off an effort deemed "unacceptable" by the head coach, the national men's basketball team's Olympic dream comes down to a "win-or-else" situation this morning.

Inexplicably flat at both ends of the court, Canada lost 86-70 to Slovenia in Athens yesterday, setting up a must-win situation against Korea at the Olympic qualification tournament.

"We felt the effort was unacceptable," coach Leo Rautins said yesterday on a conference call.

Unable to handle Slovenia's guards and unable to play at the tempo they must to have any success, the Canadians were beaten in every facet of the game.

The Slovenian backcourt of Sani Becirovic and Jaka Lakovic, relative unknowns to anyone not a devout international basketball fan, scored almost at will in the first half and their teammates took over in the second in Canada's opening game of the tournament.

And with former Toronto Raptors Rasho Nesterovic and Uros Slokar taking care of the ball inside, Slovenia moved to 2-0 in the preliminary round and guaranteed itself a spot in Friday's quarter-finals.

Miha Zupan of Slovenia, right, tries to control the ball as Rans Brempong, left, and David Thomas, of Canada look on during the basketball game tournament in Athens yesterday.

Canada now must beat Korea to have any chance at grabbing one of the three Beijing berths available in the 12-country tournament.

The Canadians, who had come into the game brimming with optimism after splitting two exhibition games in Germany and going 3-1 at home, simply couldn't get anything going at either end of the court.

"We're definitely disappointed with the effort today," said swingman David Thomas, who had 10 points for Canada, one of only two players in double figures. "Guys have to step up their effort all around."

Canada struggled under a stagnant halfcourt offence that was little more than pouring the ball into the post and letting either Levon Kendall, Joel Anthony or Sam Dalembert go to work.

A team built to thrive in transition couldn't get out and run and the team's outside shooting was dreadful.

"We took most of our transition game away, I don't think it had much to do with Slovenia," said Rautins. "We're a running team that looks to attack and we didn't run."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Joel Anthony, right, jumps to score as Raso Nesterovic defends.

PHOTOS BY THANASSIS STAVRAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED

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Cuban cyclist in coma after crash

CYCLING Pedro Pablo Perez, a star Cuban cyclist who competed at the Sydney Olympics, was in a coma after a car crash and will miss the Beijing Games.

The 31-year-old rider sustained "cerebral ... lacerations and remains in a coma" following Monday's accident in San Cristobal in the western province of Pinar del Rio, the Communist Party newspaper Granma said yesterday.

It was unclear if he was a driver or passenger.

A spokesman for the national cycling team declined comment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

B.C. BMX rider named to team

CYCLING The Canadian Cycling Association announced onMonday that BMX rider Scott Erwood of Surrey, B.C., has been officially nominated to the Canadian Olympic team.

Erwood defeated Jim Brown of Calgary in a race-off on Saturday, which was held in Chula Vista, Calif. The showdown was a best-of five competition. Erwood won the opening two time trials then triumphed in the first head-to-head race to clinch the spot.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Class cancellations reviewed for Jewish holidays

Two Ontario universities are reviewing their observance of Jewish holidays. Starting this fall, the University of Windsor's law school will no longer cancel classes for Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah, with U of T reviewing the practice as well. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Money for college

The Ontario government announced recently $9.5 million in funding for expansion at Confederation College in Thunder Bay. The funding will go toward equipment upgrades and classroom expansion.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Dismissal signs will be clear

Finding your own job posted online doesn't bode well for continued employment

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin

dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com

Employers are becoming increasingly adept at covering their bases when dismissing employees. But with no legal entitlement to continued employment, no one is indispensable. Canadian employees may have little certainty these days — and less job security.

Here are some signs that you are about to be fired that I have gleaned from my clients in the workplace trenches:

• Your performance is scrutinized. Although your employer need not build a case for incompetence to dismiss you, many try to do it anyway, whether the motivation is sinister, or simply a device to measure dissatisfaction with your work.

• Having turned on you already, your employer's constructive feedback becomes scarce. Once the decision has been made, employers have less incentive to correct deficiencies in your work and, in some cases, more of an incentive to reveal them.

• If you handle client accounts, these clients will slowly be introduced to other representatives at the firm. If you are only in the short-term plans, your employer will pass your work to others while you are still there to make the transition easier after you have left.

• Your work no longer merits praise but rather you are criticized for errors, however small, that were not previously remarked on.

• If your employer assumes, even incorrectly, that you are about to defect to a competitor, expect a swift response. Your computer will be monitored, or your access to the company server restricted. Watch closely as technological "moats" are established. If you do not contact your clients shortly after you leave, you will learn from them that someone else has.

• You experience differential treatment on financial terms. Incentives, such as bonuses, are the most identifiable and among the most contentious issues. With your departure in sight, your employer is disinclined to reward you — but it does not mean they can avoid doing so. Consider whether a contract defines your entitlement, your historical earnings and whether other employees received their bonus after you left.

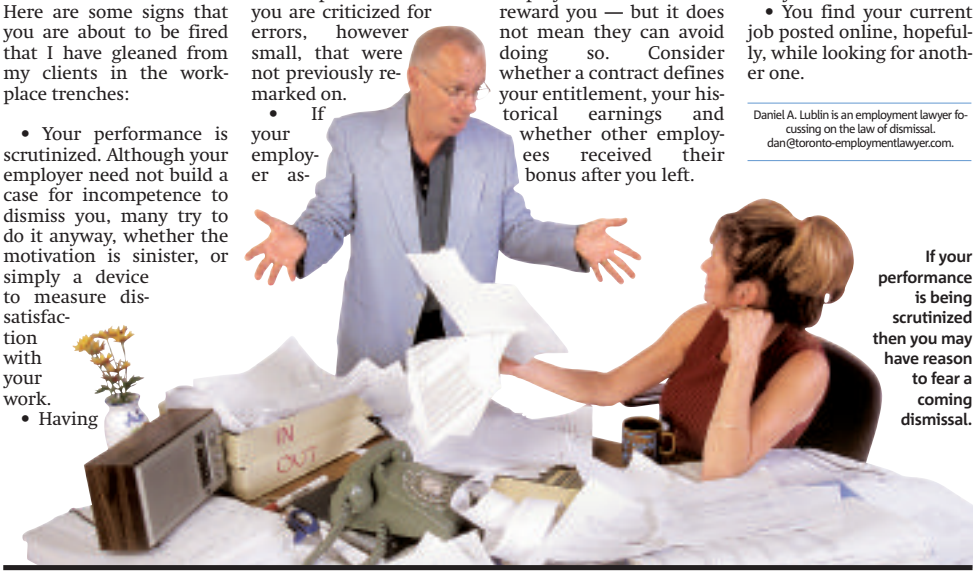
• If you share an assistant, he or she will gravitate to other employees.

• Memos will arrive with comments where you were previously given instructions or feedback orally. Follow-up memos confirming your conversations will also be sent.

• Your job becomes less defined. Assignments are more menial, shorter term and, ironically, easier to complete. If this persists, you may be constructively dismissed, although my advice to employees is usually to try to persevere rather than to act prematurely and risk being viewed as resigning voluntarily.

• You find your current job posted online, hopefully, while looking for another one.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer focussing on the law of dismissal. dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.



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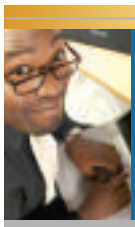

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Waterloo prepares for student barrage
PSE institutions in the Waterloo Region have been busy working to accommodate a record number of incoming students. Wilfrid Laurier University and Conestoga College both expect increased enrolment. METRO NEWS SERVICES

The demoralizing job search

Every no you receive brings you closer to that yes, career counsellor says

AMANDA TRUSCOTT
for Metro Canada

Getting over the blues that accompany constant rejection can be one of the biggest hurdles for job seekers. It certainly was for Konstantinos Kasekas, who finished grad school only to find out that the jobs in his chosen field — strategic management — had dried up almost overnight.

"I'd probably get one response for every hundred resumés that I sent out," he says. For six months, he sent out between 20 and 30 resumés a day, to every job posting he could find.

"There was definitely a sense of desolation," he says. Eventually, he realized he had to change something. He began volunteering and, before long, he made connections that led to a sales position with a job-posting company.

It wasn't the managerial position at a bank or insurance firm that he'd hoped for, but it led eventually to his career as a recruiter for Hudson Recruitment, one of the world's largest recruitment firms. It's not what he went to grad school for, but, he says, "Am I happy? Absolutely."

Paul Copcutt, founder of Square Peg Solution, a career-coaching firm based in Dundas, Ont., advises job seekers not to take rejection too personally.

He says one way to help yourself feel better is to make what he calls a "success file," a presentation binder filled with letters of congratulations, recommendations, photos, or newspaper clippings that provide examples of your achievements.

Zel Spillman, a career counsellor at the University of Toronto, says it's important to stay upbeat because employers often interpret depression as a lack of enthusiasm for the job.

Frustration can be debilitating on the job search.

Instead, he says, job seekers should try to get excited about rejections. "The more no's you get, the closer you're going to get to that yes," he says.

He adds, however, that after a certain point, constant rejection can signal a problem with your approach.

It's a numbers game, he says, but sending out as many resumés as you can is not necessarily the best way to play it.

"The temptation is to do a sort of shotgun approach and try and apply to everything that you think you fit, but what you're doing is diluting your effectiveness, stretching your resources, and increasing the number of times that somebody's going to say no to you," he says.

A better approach, he says, is to spend more time on fewer applications, targeting the specific companies and positions you're interested in.

If you get an interview, prepare beforehand and follow up afterwards, Copcutt advises. He recommends sitting down after every interview and taking notes on what went well and what didn't. Then, if you're rejected, you'll have a better idea about what to change next time.

Also, he says, "The thank-you note goes such a long way. Thank you after an interview, but also thank you after a rejection, because it's unusual. People wouldn't normally do that, and that really sticks out in an interviewer's mind."

common foibles

Some of the most common mistakes include insufficiently targeted resumés, generic or absent cover letters, and spelling mistakes.

Perks can take place of pay raises

NEW YORK Many small business owners are finding themselves in painful conversations with employees these days, chats that start with "Boss, I'm really strapped for cash — I need a raise." But many companies are themselves hurting, and an owner may need to look for a way to help a staffer that doesn't involve money.

Human resources professionals say that by being creative, owners can give employees something of value, even if it's not a bigger paycheque. Just saying "no" and leaving it at that is probably a bad idea if this is an employee you want to hold on to.

Beverly Kaye, an employee retention consultant in Sherman Oaks, Calif., suggests owners be truthful, acknowledge staffers' problems and also let them know they're valued.

She recommends telling an employee seeking a raise, "You deserve it, but I just can't do it right now. Tell me what else would work — what would make your life easier, what would make things better for you?"

Kaye recommends then brainstorming with the employee to come up with three or four perks or benefits that would make the employee feel better. For example, a couple more vacation days, or a later arrival or early departure on Fridays in the summertime.

Kaye also said owners shouldn't assume that they know what would work for a given staffer. Maybe vacation days might work for one, but not another.

She's dealing with the situation at her own business; one of Kaye's staffers has a daughter about to go off to school, and the employee was hoping for a raise to help pay for tuition. What Kaye ended up doing was hiring the young woman to be her house and dog sitter — and paying her the money that would have gone to a kennel during Kaye's vacation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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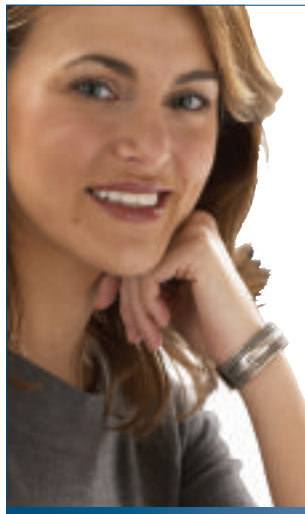

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I dream of Batmobile

Metro's Rick McGinnis gets his supervroom on with Dark Knight's ride

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

The first time designer Ian MacIntosh saw the Batmobile on TV in 1966, he remembers almost losing control.

"The show was great, but the car was just the piece de resistance. It was the wickedest car ever," MacIntosh says at the door of his Mississauga car customizing space where he is building his own version of every man's dream car.

The show was Batman, the high-camp pop-art comedy show that starred Adam West and ran for two years in the late '60s and forever in syndication. MacIntosh's version of the Batmobile, sitting in front of us on the floor of his shop, is the product of more than two years of labour and still a few months from completion.

If you're only used to the cherished Corgi die-cast model you owned as a kid, the first thing that strikes you is how massive it is — a long, low, lethal black sled of a car. MacIntosh's Batmobile is built on a 2002 Corvette C5 chassis that's been lengthened by two feet, and is almost 20 feet long. "It's a monster car," Ian says.

IAN MACINTOSH/FOR METRO CANADA

Rick McGinnis sits in the Batmobile being built by Ian MacIntosh in his Mississauga shop.

The rest of the building is taken up with Ian's main business — designing, printing and installing those huge vinyl billboards that wrap themselves around buses and cover stretches of walls and hallways in subways and malls. Just recently, his company was commissioned to create the murals for The Dark Knight, the new Batman film that hits theatres Friday, currently coating the walls at Union Station. "I was all excited, because when you've been a Batman fan all your life, and you finally get a chance to work with your superhero, you jump at it."

"My wife thinks I'm out of my head wanting a full-sized Batmobile."
Ian MacIntosh

The car's body is rough, and MacIntosh is going to have it laser-scanned and tweaked on the computer before being re-fabricated and sealed in Kevlar — an option custom-car godfather George Barris didn't have in 1966 when he built the first Batmobile. The famous flaming exhaust will be replaced with a slightly safer option. "We're going to put LEDs and speakers and CO2, and that way it'll blow a replica flame so kids can walk behind the car without getting torched. And that'll be connected to the gas pedal, so when you press the gas the sounds of the turbine increase and the lights increase and more CO2 comes out."

RICK MCGINNIS/METRO TORONTO

Car enthusiast Ian MacIntosh has been constructing a replica of the '60s Batmobile for two years in his Mississauga shop.

There are other Batmobiles, of course. Just after talking to MacIntosh I head down to the Eaton Centre to check out The Tumbler — the Batmobile featured in Christopher Nolan's movie reboots of the caped crusader — and the Batpod, the monster motorcycle hidden in The Tumbler's bowels.

The Tumbler is a hulking thing, more military than drag strip, and it takes its inspiration from tanks and fighter jets, not the sleek fantasies of chrome and glass and aerodynamic steel that every male, even if he's never had a licence to drive, responds to with a low groan, and for which the 1966 Batmobile is a wild, wicked, supreme expression.

Ian's ambition is to get his car finished in time to enter it into the Targa Newfoundland, a 2,200-kilometre race where car nuts can show off their rides.

He says that, while he knows how much the car has cost him, he has no idea how to put a value on it.

"My wife thinks I'm out of my head wanting a full-sized Batmobile," Ian tells me. "How do you rationalize it? I don't know. I'm guaranteed that she doesn't like the car, but I will get her wearing a cat suit in that passenger seat if it's the last thing I ever do."

Rick McGinnis with The Tumbler, the Batmobile from Christopher Nolan's Batman films.
VICTORIA GORMLEY/FOR METRO CANADA

Bat and beyond

There have been countless Batmobiles in decades of DC comics, but here are a few key versions of the car, and some of their equally wicked competitors.

- **1941:** The Batmobile is introduced in Detective Comics #27, but wasn't given its name until issue #48, though it was merely a red convertible with design elements of a Ford and a Lincoln — no fins, flames or nostrils.
- **1966:** Batman and The Green Hornet debut on television the same year, introducing two awesome new cars — Green Hornet's Black Beauty (a 1966 Chrysler Crown Imperial sedan customized by Barris colleague Dean Jeffries) and the Batmobile.
- **1979:** The Dukes Of Hazzard debuts on CBS and introduces General Lee, a modified 1969 Dodge Charger.
- **1982:** Knight Industries Three Thousand, or KITT, debuts with the premiere of Knight Rider on NBC. A Pontiac Firebird Trans Am with a cybernetic brain, it would later be upgraded to a Pontiac Banshee prototype for Knight Rider 2000.
- **1989:** Tim Burton revives the Batman franchise and introduces a new Batmobile — two Chevy Impala chassis and a V8 engine over which production designer Anton Furst conceives a long, low machine with a jet engine in the middle of the hood.
- **2005:** Christopher Nolan rewinds Batman to the start with Batman Begins and introduces The Tumbler, a massive, brutal machine with a military inspiration and details from the F-117 Stealth fighter that is never referred to once as a Batmobile.

COURTESY DC COMICS

The DC comics Batmobile from the 1940s.

RICK MCGINNIS/METRO TORONTO

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JIM MAKER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Firefighters work on the crumpled remains of a Yukon SUV on Highway 401 near Milton. One person died in the crash, which police say was fuelled by road rage.

When fury takes the driver's seat

Anyone can succumb to road rage: Experts

BRIAN TOWIE
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Who does your typical road rager look like? You.

The phenomenon of fury behind the wheel has come to the fore once again after 55-year-old Antonio Greco was killed in what police are calling a deadly act of road rage last week on the James Snow Parkway near Milton.

Wayne Winsor, 39, faces charges of leaving the scene of an accident, criminal negligence and dangerous driving.

The victim's family has since called for an end to aggression on the roadways.

But neither Greco nor Winsor fit the description of what experts have called likely road rage perpetrators: Young males under 30. Experts say that while a case this extreme is rare, it's proof that anyone, particularly successful people, can blow their top and put themselves and others in harm's way.

It's more common than one might think: Angelo DiCicco, a 21-year driving instructor and general manager at Young Drivers of Canada, says out of the more than 500 professional drivers his school retrains per year, 95 per cent say they have been the subject of or subjected to road rage.

The most common acts of road rage don't come from the Charlie Manson types ... they come from people with above-average incomes and education."
OPP Sgt. Cam Woolley

Control issue

"The most common acts of road rage don't come from the Charlie Manson types who carry the bloody axe in the seat next to them, they come from people with above-average incomes and education," adds Sgt. Cam Woolley of the Ontario Provincial Police.

"They're successful people who interact well with the community around them and are referred to in a positive way. I think it's a control issue. These people are used to being in charge of their lives, so when they get cut off or someone tailgates them, they react the wrong way."

Incidents such as the one last week usually start with a mistake, says Woolley, followed by visual communication — a glare or offensive gestures, for instance. The situation can then escalate into aggression, then possibly violence if tempers flare high enough.

So what is it about the road that brings out the worst in people? Dr. David Wiesenthal, a York University psychology professor and co-author of Contemporary Issues In Road User Behavior And Traffic Safety, says the anonymity the car provides spurs people to act in ways they normally never would.

"Roads are a place where you see vengeance on a daily basis," he said. "Speed and anonymity are factors: You have the car, which is both the weapon and the means of escape. You'll probably never see that stranger again, so the social constraints are gone. You're freer to deviate from social behaviour."

Anonymity

Nevertheless, the protection from recognition the car affords drivers is no excuse to act aggressively, says Edyta Zdancewicz, media spokesperson for the Canadian Automobile Association.

"Road rage is essentially a selfish act, and it's always serious. One life lost is too much," she said. "It's not something you can legislate out. The drivers have to take control of themselves. The onus is on all of us to use our common sense."

Managing anger

Tips to beat road rage from those in the know

- Had a bad day? "Don't bring it into the car with you," says Zdancewicz. "Take 15 minutes to cool down before you step into the vehicle."
- "If someone makes you mad, don't engage them," Woolley advises. "You don't know what their mental state might be. Call police if you see someone driving recklessly."
- "Don't jockey for a better position on the road," says DiCicco. "Let them go. You'll meet up with them in the next intersection where the traffic gets backed up."
- "Listen to soothing music, particularly music you like, and take deep breaths," says Wiesenthal.

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Open Rehearsal
From Sept. 26-28, art lovers will be able to see the work behind London's performances and exhibitions during Open Rehearsal. The annual event will pull back the curtains on a variety of cultural institutions such as the Barbican, National Theatre, the Old Vic and English National Ballet. VISIT LONDON

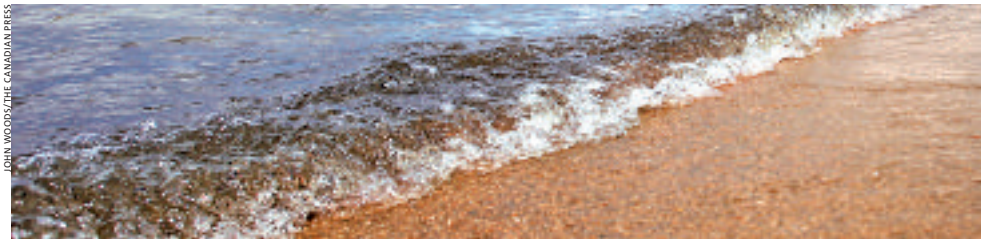
Travel

Hawaiian Oktoberfest
Oahu's Ala Moana Hotel will host its 38th annual Oktoberfest celebration from Oct. 7 to 12 this year. The event attracts more than 8,000 guests who eat sauerkraut and pig knuckles, and dance to the polka stylings of the Edelweiss Band. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Winnipeg beaches offer surprise

Travellers don't always have to go south to find a soft and sandy beach

It's far from palm trees and ocean vistas, but Manitoba's Grand Beach can sometimes feel like a tropical getaway.


JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS
The sand is one of the main draws to Grand Beach, say visitors.

White sand stretches for several kilometres on the southeast shore of Lake Winnipeg, which is so vast that land is not visible on the other side.

On a hot, sunny Saturday, thousands of people make the one-hour drive north of Winnipeg.

Families create small encampments with their beach umbrellas, coolers and colourful sand pails. Fashion-savvy teens and 20-somethings congregate with friends on the beach or nearby volleyball court.

Freakishly bronzed sunbathers lie in folding lounge chairs and rotate throughout the day to follow the sun's movements — although the number of such sun worshippers seems to dwindle every year.

"The big thing at Grand Beach is people watching," says Ron Joyce, president of Grand Beach and Area Development Corp.

Morgan Bourne of Winnipeg, 16, agrees.

"Especially for our demographic, this is where it's at," said Bourne, relaxing with more than a dozen friends and schoolmates after exams on a Friday afternoon in late June.

When asked what they like best about Grand Beach, a chorus of teens shouts at once: "The sand!"

The stretch of fine, white sand was left behind thousands of years ago by melting glaciers.

Massive sand dunes reach 12 metres high at some points. Wind whips the sand, so it's constantly shifting into different shapes.

Dotted with leafy green trees, the dunes are a perfect spot to catch some shade and hide away from the crowds at the water's edge.

"Coming from Victoria, we're used to beaches and water, but this is special," said Joan Wenman, visiting Grand Beach for the first time.

"The sheer expanse of the sand dunes, and the white sand … And it looks like the ocean, you can't see the other side," said Wenman.

"The beach is beautiful. Absolutely gorgeous," said Wenman's husband, Doug McPherson.

If you like to swim, Grand Beach has a massive designated swimming area. But the appearance of the water is the real departure from the tropical look. The lake's clay bottom gives the water a murky brown appearance.

Boating, fishing and water sports such as waterskiing and wakeboarding are popular activities, especially in a large lagoon that's separated from the main lake. There are also several self-guided hiking trails.

One website, *grandbeachtourism.com*, advertises one bed and breakfast in Grand Marais, but vacationers turn to renting private cottages, sometimes for weeks at a time.

For outdoorsy types, there's a massive campground as well.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

if you go...

- A car is virtually a must for getting to Grand Beach. There is limited bus service to the popular summer spot about 80 kilometres north of Winnipeg's outer ring road.
- Because it's located within a provincial park, there is a fee to visit the beach.
- Admission is $7 for a three-day sticker, or $28 for a pass that's good for a year. Camping passes are extra.

JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS
Joan Wenman and Doug McPherson from Victoria, B.C., take a walk on the white sands of Grand Beach, Man.

JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS
People gather early for a day of fun and sun at Grand Beach, Man.

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Continental class in a lakeside setting

ANNE DIMON
for Metro Canada

It's lunchtime when I arrive for a two-day visit at the Inn at Manitou. The elegant and gracious resort graces the rocky shores of Lake Manitouwabing, about 150 miles north of Toronto, but the luncheon scene that greets me is strictly South of France.

A guest of the Inn at Manitou has a massage treatment with Lake Manitouwabing as a backdrop.

THE INN AT MANITOU PHOTOS

Morning yoga class on the dock.

The Inn at Manitou

- Inn at Manitou rates start at $295 per person, per night and include breakfast, lunch, dinner and afternoon tea daily, as well as many activities.
- Open May to October.
- The inn is about a two-hour drive north of Toronto's Pearson International Airport. It's possible to arrange transportation by limousine or chartered float plane to the inn's docks.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

On the web

- For more information on The Inn at Manitou, visit *www.manitou-online.com*.
- For more information on spa and wellness travel, visit *www.traveltowellness.com*.

Wrought iron tables draped in bright Provençal prints are set out on a patio in the shade of a massive basswood. A sommelier — direct from Burgundy — is recommending wines to pair with dishes that reflect a sophisticated international fare. Service staff is mostly French but you can also pick up an Italian or Asian accent.

The resort — yes it is simultaneously resort and inn — embodies what Relais & Chateau calls the philosophy of "art d'etre" - where guests enter "a unique universe of well-being"

Certainly the physical beauty of its lakeside location, the elegant French-Asian décor, the outdoor fitness activities, the spa, the food and the level of service all help create this pervading sense of wellbeing.

But two things that really define the resort are its warm, welcoming personality and the personable, professional international staff. Combined, the two create an art-of-hospitality that practically bounces off rich, sunflower-coloured walls that are the backdrop for fine furnishings, antiques and works-of-art lovingly collected from around the world. Walk in and, instantly, this is a place that makes you feel good.

Between meals guests spend time on the tennis courts, lounge by the outdoor swimming pool, walk the wooded trails, cycle into town, canoe or kayak the pristine lake or enjoy a round on the 18-hole Ridge at Manitou a luxury, private club.

Each morning begins with a guided walk followed by yoga on the dock, then off to the various activities. For me — it's an Oxygen Facial. Lovingly appointed in keeping with the rest of the inn, the spa offers 11 treatment rooms — a generous size for a property with just 34 guest rooms.

At the hands of Kittiya, a therapist trained at the renowned Chiva Som in Thailand, the facial is everything a good spa treatment should be — nurturing, pampering, relaxing and results oriented. It includes pure oxygen being sprayed from a tank onto the face, which is then sealed in with a serum. It's said to be detoxifying, stimulating and, because the oxygen enters the blood stream, an energy boost for the entire body. I can certainly vouch for the energy boost which serves me well on the golf course. Afterwards, there's afternoon tea served in the very elegant Asian-inspired Tea Room.

When I arrive for dinner about 7:30 p.m., I'm surprised to find both Sheila Wise (who launched the business with her late husband, Ben Wise, 35 years ago) and Jordanna Wise Lipson, who co-manages the resort with her mother, both in the reception area greeting guests as they might in their own home. At least one of them is usually here breakfast, lunch and dinner and often, they are also the ones picking up the phones to take room reservations. The personal touch they bring to the inn and their attention to detail is impressive and sometimes surprising. For instance, they keep a stock of pashminas in various colours on-hand should a guest feel a little chilly when dining on the terrace.

Whether inside or out, service is impeccable and dinner time is an elegant affair with fine china, starched table linens, serving staff in white jackets and a prevailing attitude that lends energy to the place.

Anne Dimon is a spa and wellness travel writer and founder/editor of www.traveltowellness.com

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People warned of deadly caterpillar

It was a freak encounter with tragic consequences. A Canadian woman who had travelled to South America last year died 10 days after stepping, barefoot, on venomous caterpillars, a team of Edmonton doctors reported in the Canadian Medical Association Journal.

Her case should be a cautionary tale for people embarking on exotic trips to far-flung places, her doctors and others suggest.

"Obviously, the more exotic we get in where we travel, the more opportunities there are that we're going to interface with bizarre things," said Dr. Kevin Kain, a Toronto-based travel and tropical medicine expert who did not treat the woman but was asked to comment on the report.

"There are some bad things out there. They're rare, but they're bad."

The woman, who was in northeastern Peru on an organized jungle trek, accidentally stepped on five caterpillars of the Lonomia genus, which secrete a toxin that causes hemorrhaging in humans.

The Canadian woman's story, presented in a section of the journal dedicated to teaching doctors about difficult-to-diagnose cases, concluded with a warning that as adventure travel increases in popularity, doctors will need to develop the tools to rapidly recognize and treat conditions they've never encountered before.

"People are engaging in more adventure travel … They are pushing the boundaries to some extent and we are getting people who otherwise wouldn't do adventure travel routinely engaging in adventure travel," said Dr. Sean Bagshaw, a critical-care specialist and one of the doctors who cared for the unidentified woman at the University of Alberta Hospital.

Bagshaw said travellers also bear responsibility for learning about the hazards they might face and how to avoid them. "I think it's important that people do a little bit of homework before they engage in any adventure travel to understand what health risks may be posed by that."

Privacy laws prevent Bagshaw from revealing much about the woman. She was 22 and a resident of Alberta.

He said she sought care at the hospital late last summer or in the early fall, seven days after returning from Peru and four days after bruising on her legs began to appear.

Early in the course of the investigation, she told the doctors of having stepped on caterpillars and feeling a burning pain in her foot that radiated up to her thigh. She developed a headache. But about 12 hours later, both symptoms subsided and she didn't seek treatment locally.

That probably was unwise in this case and would be in others as well, said Kain, director of travel and tropical medicine at Toronto's University Health Network.

That's because antivenin products made to counteract toxins generated by rare creatures are often only available where those creatures live.

Even if Canadian doctors can get their hands on the right antivenin in time, getting permission to use it could be tough, given the legal liability their institutions would probably face. "Because none of this kind of stuff will have been approved," Kain said.

Through their local poison control centre they contacted doctors in Brazil, who recommended immediate treatment with an antivenin produced in that country. It took 48 hours to arrive.

They began treatment, but she died of multi-organ failure the same day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rare critters

There are two species of the caterpillars known to cause hemorrhagic syndromes in humans. Found in parts of South America, including Venezuela and Brazil, the insects emit venom through hairs that cover their bodies.

"Obviously, the more exotic we get in where we travel, the more opportunities there are that we're going to interface with bizarre things. There are some bad things out there. They're rare, but they're bad."
Dr. Kevin Kain

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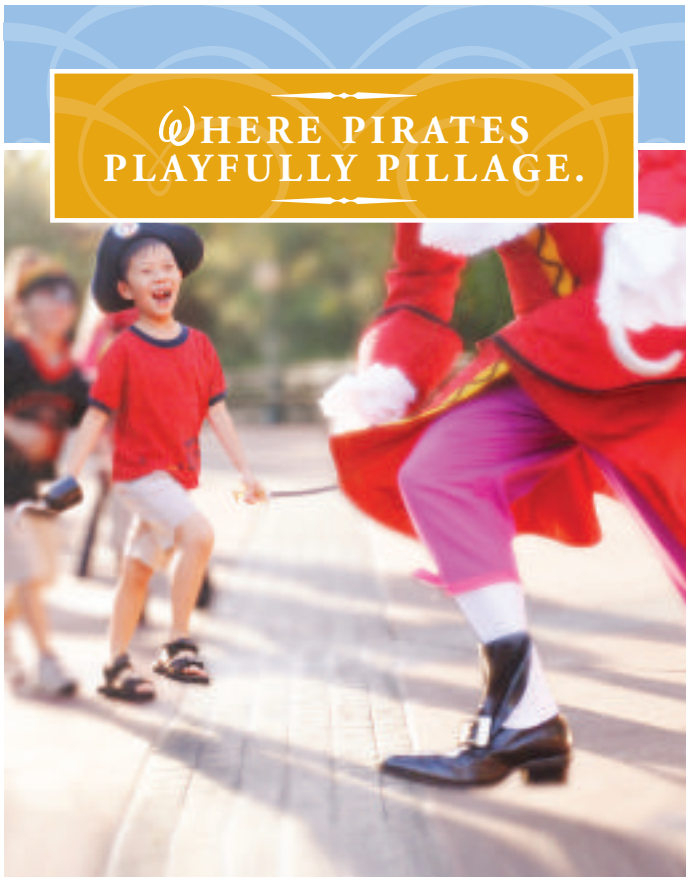

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'Living history' set to invade Wasaga Beach

RE-ENACTMENT Historical battles will be re-enacted during a three-day event called "Wasaga Under Siege — A War of 1812 Experience."

The re-enactments will feature War of 1812 tactics, marine assault landings, artillery and more.

The event, from July 25 to 27, will include more than 400 re-enactors who will open their "living history" encampments to the public. There will be demonstrations of period cooking, musket and cannon shows, as well as period entertainment.

"The sandy beach and the modern attractions that surround it have overshadowed Wasaga Beach's rich history for such a long time that only a small percentage of visitors and residents actually know that a War of 1812 battle was fought here," Bonnie Smith, Wasaga Beach economic development officer, said in a news release.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

- For more information, visit *wasagaundersiege1812.com*.

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Kew Gardens offers a unique view of nature

Cutting through the canopy some 18 metres high, Kew Gardens' new XStrata Treetop Walkway gives nature-lovers a look at part of the forest that's seldom seen — a view from the top.

KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The new 18-metre-high XStrata Treetop Walkway in London's Kew Gardens gives visitors a new way to experience the forest.

The Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, in west London, is hoping the soaring steel walkway will allow the public to experience the environment hidden just above its tree line.

"Retrospectively it was a leap of faith," curator Nigel Taylor said, describing the difficulty of erecting the 448-ton structure at the heart of an 18th-century landscaped garden.

But he said the 200-metre circular walkway allowed visitors to "see a side of the forest that was completely invisible."

Project manager Tony Kirkham said the walkway was aimed at showcasing every part of the tree — from top to bottom. Entry is through an underground chamber where bronze-cast roots poke out of the concrete, animatronic insects buzz and squirm behind glass portholes, and a glowing mosaic (representing fungi) casts an uneven light.

"It's meant to look like a factory," Kirkham said, "This is the engineering part of the tree."

Kirkham allowed that real roots would have been "pretty boring," but once at the top, the view is anything but.

The whole park stretches out from the various viewing platforms — on a clear day, central London's skyscrapers, some 18 kilometres away, are visible.

Sweet chestnuts and American red oaks crowd around the structure, branching out over and under the walkway, their leaves poking gingerly through the crosshatches as a sparrow hawk wheels lazily overhead.

Pointing to a nest across from one of the platforms, Kirkham said the project would allow visitors to see Kew's bird and insect life in action, from Egyptian geese to a butterfly called "the purple hairstreak," which spends most of its time flitting around the canopy hunting for honeydew.

The walkway trembled in the breeze, although its backers promised there would be no "Millennium Bridge effect," a reference to the London bridge that developed an unnerving wobble soon after it was opened.

The structure itself is built of weathering steel — so-called because it quickly forms a protective outer layer of rust — and the railings are topped with laminated chestnut. The deep ruddy brown texture, the tapered pylons, and the branch-like struts carefully blend in to the surrounding grove, and it's possible to walk right by the walkway and miss it.

But the views from the platform aren't easy to pass up, and Kirkham promised even better to come when the oaks begin to turn red.

"The colours here in the autumn are going to be absolutely unmissable," Kirkham said. "Every time I go up there I see something new and it's always changing."

Kew Gardens, which covers some 132 hectares of meticulously manicured lawns, flower beds, greenhouses, and forest, attracts more than one million visitors a year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

- For more information, visit *apps.kew.org/trees*.

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- Dinosaur Provincial Park, National Park, Alberta
- Dunn's River Falls, Jamaica
- Mississippi River, U.S.A.
- Niagara Falls, Canada/U.S.A.
- Sugar Loaf Mountain, Brazil
- White Cliffs of Dover, U.K.
- Mount Vesuvius, Italy
- Table Mountain, South Africa
- Victoria Falls, Zambia
- Dead Sea, Middle East
- Mount Everest, Nepal
- Yangtze River, China
- Puerto Princesa River National Park, Philippines
- Ayers Rock (Uluru), Australia

To vote, visit *www.new7wonders.com*

Spelunking in the Philippines

The Travel Junkie

Julia Dimon

www.thetraveljunkie.ca

JULIA DIMON/FOR METRO TORONTO

Looking out from the cave mouth in Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park.

I imagine translucent vampires-types crawling out from the darkness, poking their flesh-eating heads out from behind giant stalagmites. I picture alien creatures emerging from rock recesses, eager to suck back my brain like a Jello shooter.

As I make my way through the cave system of the world's longest underground navigable river, a couple things become clear: No. 1, this Filipino tourist attraction is the perfect natural setting for a horror flick; and No. 2, I've been watching too much TV.

A UNESCO World Heritage site, Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park features an 8.2-kilometre river that runs through the St. Paul Mountain range. It's located on the west coast of Palawan Island, the Philippines' largest province, and tourists can visit a portion of the river by boat.

After a bumpy 2-½ hour road trip from Puerto Princesa's airport, followed by a quick boat trip, I arrive at this protected national park.

I slip on my life-jacket, hop into a small wooden boat, and putter toward the mouth of the cave.

As we approach, the smell is overpowering. It's an acrid combination of ammonia and fish sauce. "Bat sh-t," says the boatman. He reminds me not to open my mouth while I'm looking up at the cave's bat-infested ceiling. Guano isn't a pleasant smell but it doesn't take long before the stench subsides.

There are thousands of bats (nine different species) living in this cave. Using their sonar skills, they flutter about, looking for mosquitoes to eat before dangling upside down on their perches. Between the flying rodents, the bat droppings and the drizzling rain water, I'm happy to be wearing a protective (albeit goofy-looking) helmet.

The cave is incredible. Flooding into the South China Sea, the river has carved out a spectacular landscape of limestone chambers (the highest reaching a ceiling of 65 metres) and impressive rock formations.

Pointing my car-battery-operated flashlight at the rock face, I notice that one outcrop looks like the back of a naked woman, another like a giant jellyfish and a melting wax candle.

Christian pilgrims may be most impressed by a geological carving of Jesus' face. At first I had a hard time seeing the apparition, but when I did, the likeness was undeniable. Millions of years of water erosion has formed a limestone Jesus. "They say that when the cold water drips it's holy water. Hot water is holy sh-t," the guide joked. Cave humour.

Next, we paddled through a section known as the "highway." Passing through the wide colonnade, I felt like Jonah entering the mouth of a giant whale. Stalactites looked like tonsils and mammoth molars.

This underground river is vying to be named one of the New 7 Wonders of Nature, and it has my vote. The landscape is magical, engaging the senses and the imagination. It's a must-see, no question — but do keep an eye out for blood-sucking monsters.

Julia Dimon co-hosts Word Travels, airing on OLN, and edits The Travel Junkie. She can be reached through www.thetraveljunkie.ca.

On the web

- For more information, visit *puerto-undergroundriver.com*.

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Coppolas pitch luggage line
Moviemaker Francis Ford Coppola and his daughter Sofia Coppola have posed for a family portrait to promote exclusive fashion company Louis Vuitton's latest luggage campaign. IMDB.COM

Entertainment

X-Files on EBay
X-Files star Gillian Anderson is selling off memorabilia from the cult sci-fi show to raise cash for charities. More than 500 rare and signed items will be auctioned off at *EBay.com*. IMDB.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Movies tie the knot

Mamma Mia! latest film hitched to matrimonial theme

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

Attention, alpha males! I've got good news and bad news. First, the bad news: There's an unlikely new trend beginning to surface in Hollywood and it has nothing to do with comic books, video games or the cinematic comeback of Jean Claude Van Damme (sorry, dudes!).

Mamma Mia!, one of many films with a matrimonial theme this summer, opens in theatres Friday.

Instead, with Friday's release of Mamma Mia!, the institution of marriage has reaffirmed its popularity once again in cinema. Could it be possible? Has Hollywood gone soft even as most of Tinseltown's divorce lawyers are busy drawing up annulment papers? Well, apparently so.

Not only does the musical Mamma Mia! tell the story of a young girl (Amanda Seyfried) trying to reunite her single mother (Meryl Streep) with her biological father, but it's all centred around the daughter's romantic Greek wedding.

It's only one of many films rocking a matrimonial theme this summer: Sex And The City has earned more than $140 million with a marriage-dominated plot; Ashton Kutcher and Cameron Diaz got hitched in What Happens In Vegas; even tough guy Indiana Jones walked down the aisle in his latest adventure. In an age where the number of marriages in real life is declining, why are we suddenly seeing a more romanticized notion of matrimony in the movies?

According to a recent article in USA Today, perhaps one of the reasons is because women are now enjoying movies in a revived kind of way. Romantic comedies may have rebounded not as a date movie, but as a way to bond with your female friends.

As the boffo box office of Sex And The City proved, women could sell out theatres all on their own; the film is a successful rom-com that doesn't require a date. As film producer Galt Niederhoffer states in the article, "(this movie is) being bought by women and driven by them and is making money for the studios. It's a big message to the movie-making community."

Romantic comedies may have rebounded not as a date movie, but as a way to bond with your female friends.

The community seems to be paying attention, too. Woody Allen's Vicky Cristina Barcelona, The Accidental Husband, Rachel Getting Married and Bride Wars are just a few of the matrimonial-themed movies coming soon to a theatre near you.

Which finally brings me to that good news, guys: Movies about marriage may be the newest trend but at least you aren't needed to sit through them for your girlfriend's sake anymore. Then again, aren't you going to kind of miss feeling needed by your girlfriend, guys?

In brief

GAMING The first track to be taken from Guns N' Roses' new album will be released through video game Rock Band 2, along with a Bob Dylan number. Shackler's Revenge, taken from Guns' long-awaited Chinese Democracy, will be featured in the game, to be released in September. BBC NEWS ONLINE

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A biographical comic book is to be published to honour former South African president Nelson Mandela. A distribution company has announced it has acquired North American publishing rights to Nelson Mandela: The Authorized Comic Book. **IMDB.COM**

TIFF's new home

Gala reveals feature films, plans for 'Bell Lightbox'

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

In a well-packed ballroom at Toronto's Royal York hotel yesterday, Toronto International Film Festival director Piers Handling kicked off a press conference announcing this year's Canadian content at the festival by talking about the festival's new home — the Bell Lightbox, a few blocks away, still under construction but scheduled to take over as the festival's home a year from now.

All of this year's festival promotional material will carry the multicoloured graphic for the new building, Handling said, as a way of branding the festival with its new identity and home well in advance. With that out of the way, the announcements for this year's spate of Canadian films began as Cameron Bailey, TIFF's new co-director, took the stage.

RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Deepa Mehta

Bailey announced the return of festival programs such as the Talent Lab — a four-day workshop for fledgling filmmakers — and the Canadian Music Café, a showcase for local musicians at the Hard Rock Café on Dundas Square. The square itself will be a new venue for the festival, as the site of screenings and performance events to be announced closer to the Festival's Sept. 4 kick-off.

Passchendaele, Paul Gross' epic story of the pivotal but tragic World War One battle, will open the festival's Gala series, while other marquee Canadian pictures such as Atom Egoyan's Adoration and Deepa Mehta's Heaven On Earth will have pride of place on the festival schedule. Director Mehta recalled debuting her first feature, Sam And Me, at the festival in 1991, and said of her new film, "It's where my two worlds come together — Canada and India. And they come together in Brampton!"

Canadian features, which were once mostly segregated in their own program, are now spread across the whole of the festival's schedule, with new films by veteran Canadian directors such as Lea Pool, Carl Bessai and Francis Leclerc, while Bruce McDonald's zombie film Pontypool will be featured in the Vanguard program.

Festival programmer Steve Gravestock joked about the proliferation of films at the festival featuring 12-year-old protagonists and described one film about a young man who begins a sexual relationship with his computer.

"I know," he remarked. "We have one of these every year."

Star power

Among the stars appearing in Canadian films at this year's TIFF are Sir Ben Kingsley, Joshua Jackson, Rose McGowan, Liane Balaban, and Daily Show correspondents Jason Jones and Samantha Bee, who are in the cast of director Warren Sonoda's Cooper's Camera.

Art accompanies Caribana

Works by 24 artists of African-Canadian heritage will be displayed at the Royal Ontario Museum during the city's annual Caribana festival.

The Roots To Rhythm: Caribana Art Exhibit, curated by artist/activist Joan Butterfield, features 70 canvases that take the viewer on "a dramatic journey through the soul of music," says the museum.

Among the artists is Jamaican-born Nicole Pena, who has exhibited in several solo and group shows in Toronto, New York City, Trinidad's Port of Spain and Hamilton, Bermuda. Many of her paintings depict people in spiritual and psychic reverie.

Others include David Vasquez, whose work often reflects his Dominican background; Izzy Ohiro, originally from Nigeria; and London, England-born Angela Haynes.

"Bringing to canvas their differences, their histories, their traditions and their struggles, the extraordinary scope and diversity of the Roots To Rhythm exhibit demonstrates the outstanding abilities unique to each artist," said Butterfield.

Roots To Rhythm runs at the ROM from July 25 to Aug. 4. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Big shot

Caribana, a celebration of Caribbean music, cuisine and performing arts, is billed as the largest festival of its kind in North America.

Entertainment in brief

TRIBUTE Heath Ledger's family attended Monday's The Dark Knight premiere in New York, *People.com* reports, where the late actor's father left the theatre giving a thumbs-up sign. Kim Ledger and his wife Ines — Heath's stepmother — bypassed the red carpet and ducked into the theatre to watch his late son play The Joker in the latest movie about Batman.

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Kevin Costner had to agree to be a dad again before his wife Christine Baumgartner would agree to marry him. **IMDB.COM**

Finding Maria

'Disastrous if wrong girl is picked': Webber

Theatre giant Andrew Lloyd Webber is jetting to Canada to work with the final four hopefuls vying to star in a fall production of The Sound Of Music.

DAN KITWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

Andrew Lloyd Webber will coach contestants on the reality show How Do You Solve A Problem Like Maria?, CBC says.

CBC-TV says he will arrive in Toronto this week to take up residence on the reality show How Do You Solve A Problem Like Maria? and will be a guest judge on Sunday.

Webber was not scheduled to arrive until the finale a week later, but says he moved up his appearance because "it could prove disastrous if the wrong girl is picked."

The show has performers competing for the lead role in the beloved musical, with contestants kicked off weekly by viewer votes.

CBC says Webber will coach contestants during the week and stay for the remaining three shows. The field was whittled to four hopefuls Monday, down from six.

That left Vancouver's Elicia MacKenzie, Janna Polzin, originally from Woodstock, Ont., now living in Toronto, Jayme Armstrong of Vancouver and Marisa McIntyre of Waterloo, Ont., as the final four.

"They really need my help at this stage of the competition," Webber said, noting the winner will need the stamina to cope with a demanding role week in and week out. "It could prove disastrous if the wrong girl is picked, not only because my reputation is on the line, but because we have got to find a girl who can really do this."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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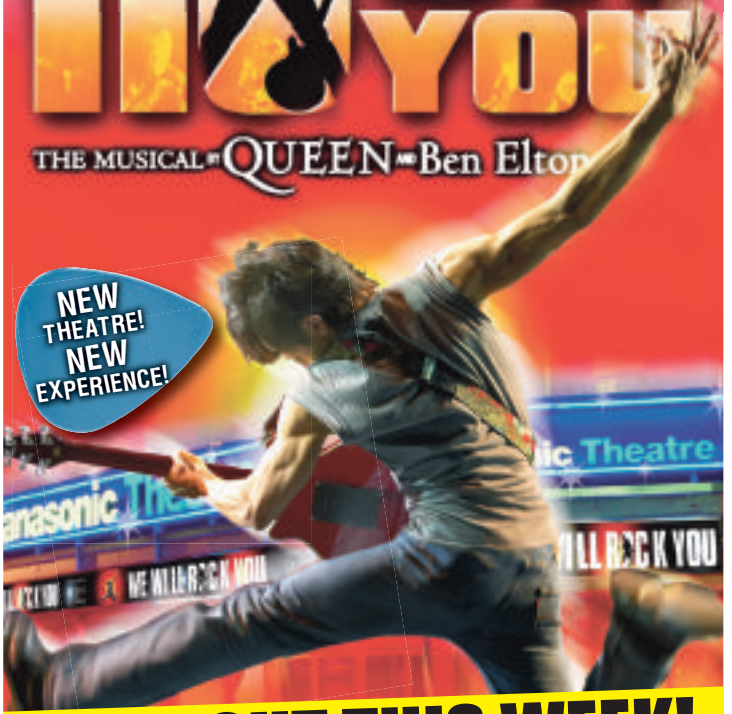

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Pop star Justin Timberlake's grandmother, Sadie Bomar, wants him to marry his girlfriend, actress Jessica Biel, in an intimate ceremony in his mother's backyard. IMDB.COM

No excuses for Fleet Foxes

Fleet Foxes play tonight at the Phoenix Concert Theatre.

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

There are plenty of rules when it comes to making music, but Seattle's Fleet Foxes only live by one: "The show must go on."

The foursome took that to heart recently, when their singer Robin Pecknold came down with a nasty illness that made it difficult for him to sing. Taking a few days off to recover wasn't an option.

"There's no reason to miss a show," says keyboardist Casey Westcott, who took over interview duties for his vocally impaired singer. "Maybe if you lost a limb, but there are no excuses when it comes to music."

Fleet Foxes' determination to keep pushing ahead isn't surprising, given how textured and complex their debut self-titled album is — picture a cross between Simon And Garfunkel, The Beach Boys and Crosby, Stills And Nash and you might get the idea. It's ripe with brilliant four-part harmonies, minimalist instrumentation and contagious hooks.

The disc is so remarkable that it's tough to have a discussion about new bands without Fleet Foxes coming up in conversation. "People are having allergic reactions to the music," says Westcott. "It's a little weird."

While the band is happy for the high praise — Pitchfork gave the disc a 9.0 — Westcott admits he was concerned the record would never get made.

"We've been playing together since 2006 and we've been working on it straight through," he says. "We ran out of money for the nth time, so we recorded it ourselves.

"We recorded and mixed songs three or four times in a number of years," he continues, "and when we finally went into the mastering studio we had a ton of songs."

the whole story

To read the full interview, including why keyboardist Casey Westcott doubts he'll ever go punk, check out *metronews.ca*.

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Television Kristen Bell will return to Heroes this fall with a multi-episode arc as her Season 2 character Elle Bishop, an agent of the Company, whose power is the ability to generate and manipulate electricity. EW.COM

Cyrus wants cleaner Sex And The City

SQUEAKY CLEAN: In an interview with TV Guide, last week's teen queen Miley Cyrus said that one of her ambitions is to make a "younger, cleaner version of Sex And The City."

I have this horrible feeling that Cyrus is a bit unclear about just what made the HBO series a hit, and that it wouldn't be replicated by replacing frank talks over Cosmos about the female perspective on male performance anxiety with a gang of perky gal pals sitting around a Starbucks complaining over their soy chai lattés about boys who've gotten addicted to the lap dance scenes in the new Grand Theft Auto.

Or maybe it would?

PUNCH LINE: In the wake of the curious fracas about a recent New Yorker cover picturing Barack Obama and his wife in the White House dressed up as Osama bin Laden and Angela Davis, the New York Times printed an apparently serious analysis piece on how TV comedians are having a hard time coming up with campaign trail gags about the Democratic presidential candidate.

"Why?" the Times earnestly asked. "The reason cited by most of those involved in the shows is that a fundamental factor is so far missing in Mr. Obama: There is no comedic 'take' on him, nothing easy to turn to for an easy laugh, like allegations of Bill Clinton's womanizing, or Geoge W. Bush's goofy bumbling or Al Gore's robotic persona."

Really? So after a campaign full of gaffes like his recent call for Americans to teach their kids a second language — delivered in what can only be called a sophomore's very poor impersonation of Richard Pryor crossed with Steven Wright, after which it transpired that Obama, who was raised in Hawaii and Indonesia before attending colleges with world-renowned languages programs, speaks only English himself — there's absolutely nothing that a comic can mine from the presidential hopeful?

Come on, people — they once made a laughingstock of Edmund Muskie and Walter Mondale for less.

While most of the late-night shows have been sympathetic to Obama, their rare attempts at poking fun at him have been, admittedly, met with audience resistance, as Jon Stewart recalled after a relatively mild gag about his campaign finance platform floundered in near-silence. "People have a tendency to react as far as their ideology allows them," Stewart told the Times.

Paraphrasing the old adage that truth is the first casualty of war, it seems that comedy is among the foremost in the partisan ideological battle that's typified the new millennium so far, and it is, as far as I'm concerned, a dismal state of affairs that both sides should be able to deplore equally.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis

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GETTY IMAGES

Miley Cyrus said one of her ambitions is to make a "younger, cleaner version of Sex And The City."

Rick on radio

Tune into CBC Radio One's Q program today at 2 p.m. and 10 p.m. to hear Metro columnist Rick McGinnis debate TV comedy.

Talk-show host King's story coming in 2009

BOOKS Larry King is ready to tell his story. What Am I Doing Here? will cover everything from the CNN host's childhood in Brooklyn to his multiple marriages. It will be published by Weinstein Books on Father's Day 2009.

"This book will be absolutely devoured by Larry King's millions of fans," Weinstein co-chair Harvey Weinstein said in a statement.

According to Weinstein Books, King will offer "uncensored" opinions on the many world leaders he has interviewed, including the first and second presidents Bush, Bill Clinton and Ronald Reagan. King will even reveal whom he voted for in each election and which president he considers the worst. The book will be co-authored by Esquire writer Cal Fussman.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Larry King

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sports	405	417	22	net	European Poker Tour		Jays Season '08		Best Damn Sports Show		Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	Billiards 2007 Mosconi Cup.		PartyPoker.net Women's World Open				SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	411	457	58	OLN	Departures		Cycling Tour de France Stage 11. From Lannemezan to Foix, France. (N)						Word Travels
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time (N)	Am. Thunder	Am. Thunder	Pinks (HDTV)	Pinks Outtakes	Pinks Outtakes	Pinks Outtakes	Pinks (HDTV)
family	551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Merrie Melody	Loonatics	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	*Batman Returns* ★★ (1992, Action)		
	556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Shopping Bags	Style by Jury	Smart Cookies	Stuck	Coleen's Real Women (N)		Stuck
	570	580	29	MM	Gone Wild	Gone Wild	Most Powerful Musicians		The Shift		America's Best Dance Crew		Born to Be
	615	520	31	A&E	The First 48		The First 48 (HDTV)		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Criss Angel	Criss Angel	Criss Angel
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	L'Avvocato Porta				The Sopranos (SS)		Raymond
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Popaganda		Back In	Tip of Tongue	Tip of Tongue	Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Celeb. Rehab
	575	583	38	CMT	CMT30 "Dauphin 2008" (N)		Ult. Coyote Ugly Search		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Totally "2003"
	616	521	39	SHO	ReGenesis "China"		Da Vinci's Inquest		Trailer Park	Rent-A-Goalie	Big Love "Affair" (HDTV)		House
	620	523	40	BVO	Literature Alive	Arts & Minds	Wingfield	Camera	Mad Men "Babylon"		Entourage	Bravonews	Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	Til Debt-Part	X-Weighted (N)		Work Out		Inside Hollywood (DVS)		X-Weighted
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Red Cell"		UFO Files		Conspiracy? "Area 51"		NCIS "Red Cell"		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Lewis Black	Tom Green	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Property Shop	Big City Broker	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Flipping Out "The Flip Side"		Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	*Tommy Boy* ★★ (1995, Comedy) Chris Farley.				Frasier	Seinfeld	Friends
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Hell Date	Access	Baldwin Hills	*Paper Soldiers* (2002, Comedy) Kevin Hart, Beanie Sigel.				Hell Date
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate SG-1 "Lifeboat"		Star Trek: Voyager		Smallville "Gemini"		Supernatural (HDTV)		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	MTV e2	Cribs	4REAL	Next	The Real World		The Real World (N)		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	TV Made, Do It	TV Made, Do It	ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
	603	561	56	FOOD	Road Grill (N)	Licence to Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Iron Chef America		The Next Food Network Star		Challenge
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Chambers	No Place Like	Jeeves and Wooster		Fighting Words		Side Effects
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	Hollywood	TMZ (N)	eTalk	Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		eTalk
	553	546	65	TRE	Wonder Pets	Nght Grdn	The Wiggles	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	Marché	Vidéos	Michel Barrette		Esprits criminels (HDTV)		TVA 22 heures	Juste pour rire	Sucré-salé
	126	730	102	RDI	RDI en direct	400 fois Qué	Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	The West Wing		Peter the Great				Traders "Boom"		The West Wing
	300	601	301	M1	*Beerfest* ★★ (2006, Comedy) Jay Chandrasekhar.				*The Heartbreak Kid* ★★ (2007, Comedy) Ben Stiller.				*The Kingdom*
	305	612	306	PIX	(7:15) *Mazes and Monsters* ★★ (1982, Suspense)				*Still of the Night* ★★ (1982, Suspense)			(10:40) *Scream of Stone*	

critics'corner

Dirty Jobs

"Ooh! See the pretty monkey!" Or not. This episode chronicles one of the more dangerous jobs host Mike Rowe has experienced — and it took its toll on the crew as well. They travel to South Africa to a rehabilitation center and shelter for monkeys. Unfortunately for Mike and his band of merry cameramen, there's one monkey that takes a shine to their ankles — and anyplace else it can tear a chunk from. 8 PM on DIS

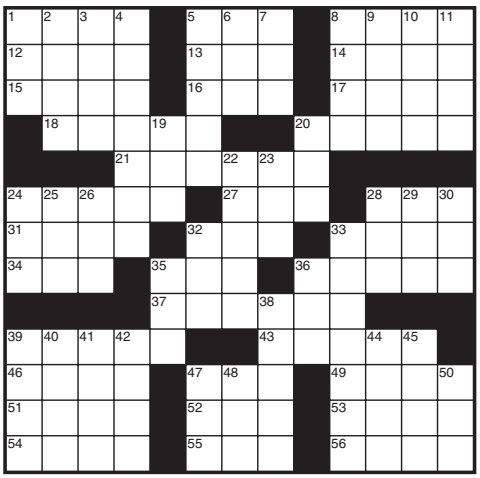
Wife Swap

According to her new "son," retired Army colonel Jill is the "torturous spawn of Satan." A nurse practitioner, executive in a software company and owner of a petting zoo, she keeps her daughters on a tight leash while her husband keeps house. She swaps homes with Glori, who dresses provocatively, loves to wait on her rocker husband and lets their son OD on video games. Hubby's hair and Sonny's games are the first things Jill wants to get rid of. 8 PM on ABC ACH-B

Reprising role

Jack Black, left, will reunite with director Richard Linklater to reprise his role as substitute teacher Dewey Finn in a sequel to 2005's hit comedy School Of Rock, E! News Online reports. METRO

Take Five



Crossword across

1 Jokey magic word
5 Workout locale
8 Blow gently
12 Threat ender
13 Happy sighs
14 Jai —
15 Dialect of Sanskrit
16 Touch of frost
17 Board game pair
18 Hazy
20 Quart, plus
21 Alphabet soup "letter"
24 Water-lily painter
27 Selene's sister
28 That guy's
31 Was in debt
32 Witty person
33 Every
34 Yeasty brew
35 Low-tech cooler
36 Shop machine
37 Half-shell item
39 Dull finish
43 Bard's teen
46 In charge of
47 Morn's counterpart
49 Eurasian mountains
51 Ike Turner's ex
52 Estuary
53 Dragon's breath
54 Vortex
55 Squeal on
56 Gala

Crossword down

1 Vim and vigor
2 Norse king
3 Fjord port
4 Played possum
5 Panasonic rival
6 — Beta Kappa
7 Deadly snake of the Nile
8 Dry watercourse
9 Hit the runway
10 Sit opposite
11 Wedding-cake part
19 Understood
20 Guitarist — Paul
22 Faculty heads
23 Journal
24 Ostrich look-alike
25 Athena's symbol
26 Before marriage
28 Sombrero, for example
29 I, to Fritz
30 The lady
32 Route
33 Winter wear
35 Attacker
36 Zodiac sign
38 Buy a round
39 Dust particle
40 Not the least bit recalcitrant
41 Lean toward
42 Highchair part
44 A Great Lake
45 Rowboat's need
47 Say incorrectly
48 Itinerary word
50 Rent out

previous day's answer

E	V	E	N		E	R	G	S
R	E	N	E		T	E	R	I
E	G	G	E	D		C	A	C
		A	D	U	L	T	S	
K	E	G	S		L	O		E
O	L	E		K	A	R	A	T
O	L	D		E	M		M	A
K	S		U	R	A	N	U	S
		B	R	R		E	S	
K	H	A	N		R	U	E	F
L	O	B	S	T	E	R		U
E	W	E		O	B	O	E	
E	L	S		W	A	N	D	

B	O	B						
E	R	A						
E	D		C	A	C	K	L	E
		A	L	O	E			
		T	E					
C	T							
A	H	A						
P								
N	S							
I	T	E						
N	O	N						
P	S							

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SOURCE: NADbank 2007, read yesterday; BASE: Montreal CMA, Ottawa-Gatineau CMA, Toronto CMA, Vancouver CMA

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Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Eating habits will make trouble in transit. Tag along with someone who has something to say. You'll be more independent in the future.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A hidden agenda creates an escalation of conflict. You are the focus of attention. Don't trip over your second thoughts.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Uncertainty comes into play. A woebegone woman has won the final round. An irrational oddball creates another drama.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Tantalizing secrets will be enjoyed. A friend's gossip involves a break-up. Make your cravings known to others.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
An erratic friend causes a mishap. Glad tidings will arrive in the afternoon. A game player is too hot to handle.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Stand your ground when confronted about your feelings. Lies help you to become aware. Refuse to fear an insipid idiot.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A surly girl needs your gratitude. An excited person will give you pleasure. Find happiness by not visiting your loved ones.

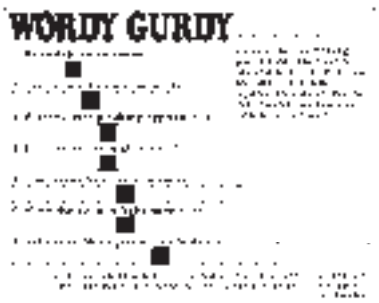
SCORPIO
OCT 24- NOV 22
A bitter relative gets used to dishonesty. Foggy thinking leads to knee-jerk reactions. Visit someone before things change too much.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23- DEC 21
Avoid getting into a quarrel at an intersection. A scruffy guy needs help to see the future. Debate among friends will clear the air.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Find the source of your strongest support. A stern man is sentimental after dark. Unstable thoughts will cause distress.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Someone disbelieves a distressing conversation. Be subtle in your criticism of a heartrending situation. Intervention results in visits.

PISCES
FEB 19-MAR 20
A heart-to-heart talk is confusing. A weird incident leads to a problem. You won't get confused about directions.



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9	8						6	7
			6		9			
1		5				2		3
		2	3		4	8		
	3						4	
		1	8		2	7		
2		7				9		6
			4		1			
3	1						2	5

Sudoku

INSTRUCTIONS:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

1	9	3	6	8	5	4	2	7
5	4	8	2	7	3	1	6	9
2	7	6	9	4	1	5	3	8
8	2	9	1	5	6	3	7	4
7	1	5	4	3	2	8	9	6
6	3	4	8	9	7	2	5	1
3	8	7	5	6	4	9	1	2
9	5	2	7	1	8	6	4	3
4	6	1	3	2	9	7	8	5

SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:
Under 13 . . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21 . . . . . Smart
21-25 . . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practising

Toronto weather

The Weather Network
theweathernetwork.com

Afternoon	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
40%		40%		
Partly cloudy. 30°	Partly cloudy. 18°	Thunder-showers. 30°/ 21°	Variable. 30°/ 18°	Mainly sunny. 27°/ 17°

Temperature Normals
High: 27.3°
Low: 14.4°

Records
High: 34.7°/1988
Low: 7.2°/1967

Sunrise: 5:52 a.m.
Sunset: 8:56 p.m.
Moonset: 3:48 a.m.
Moonrise: 8:14 p.m.

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Jail sentence
Khloe Kardashian, socialite Kim's 24-year-old younger sister, is headed to jail this week to start serving a 30-day sentence for a probation violation stemming from a DUI charge she notched back in March 2007, reports E! News Online. METRO

Celebrity Buzz

Twain focuses on music, kid

RELATIONSHIPS Two months after her split from producer-songwriter husband, Robert "Mutt" Lange, Shania Twain has found strength in the two things that mean the most to her — her six-year-old son, Eja D'Angelo, and her music, *People.com* reports.

"She's spending as much time with Eja as possible and hasn't put down her guitar since the split," a source close to the singer says. "The songs are pouring out of her."

No doubt some of them — like many great country songs — are inspired by heartache. Twain, 42, announced her separation from Lange, 59, in May, after she found out about his alleged affair with one of her best friends.

Twain is also keeping busy shopping and travelling. The now-single singer was recently spotted buying lingerie at a Holt Renfrew store in her native Canada. She's also been to the Caribbean, where she has a villa, and to Switzerland, where she and Lange once lived together.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Love lashes out at Corgan

DISPUTE Courtney Love has publicly slammed Smashing Pumpkins front man Billy Corgan over his alleged refusal to attend her daughter's forthcoming birthday party, *femalefirst.co.uk* reports.

Love reportedly unleashed a tirade at the musician on a social forum website, accusing him of making her daughter Frances Bean cry after choosing not to attend her "Sweet 16" celebrations next month.

Corgan reportedly grew close to the teen when he moved into Love's Los Angeles home in 2006 in a bid to help relaunch her music career.

But Love is adamant the rocker won't have any more communication with Frances — the daughter of late Nirvana icon Kurt Cobain — and has branded Corgan's behaviour "unacceptable."

"A sweet 16 is a big event and I think she looked upon you as family," Love writes in the blog.

Love also claims My Chemical Romance will be playing at the party.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Milano swears off baseball players

RELATIONSHIPS Alyssa Milano has sworn off dating baseball players because they are too childish, *imdb.com* reports.

The actress admits she is a huge fan of the sport, and even dreams of being a star slugger.

But after dating Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Brad Penny and Atlanta Braves star Tom Glavine, she's determined to court more mature men, like her current mystery beau, known only as "David."

Milano says, "They are grown men playing a little boy's sport. That makes them childish."

The actress, who has designed a range of Major League Baseball-approved sportswear and has her own baseball blog, admits she's such a huge fan of the sport she dreams up game scenarios when she's trying to get to sleep.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Doherty could be returning to 90210

IN DEVELOPMENT Shannen Doherty could be returning to 90210, her rep has confirmed to *usmagazine.com*.

"Yes, Shannen is in discussions with the CW to be on the new Beverly Hills, 90210," her rep tells Us. Entertainment Weekly first reported that the actress, 37, met with producers to reprise her role as Brenda Walsh on the spinoff.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Moore refuses to give up racy roles

MOVIES Actress Julianne Moore is refusing to cut down on racy movie roles to spare her kids' feelings, insisting she is happy to be an embarrassing mom, *imdb.com* reports.

The star's latest film, Savage Grace, features a three-in-a-bed love scene, and Moore admits she doesn't consider her family's reaction when she accepts a part in a movie.

She says, "I'm aware that my kids will one day see my films and might think they are a bit arch (embarrassing)." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tyra named hard-working in poll

CAREER Tyra Banks has been named the hardest-working person in show business in a new online poll, *imdb.com* reports.

The model, talk show host and TV presenter has become a mini-mogul since she stepped down from the catwalk in 2006 — and now she has landed at the top of a new survey aimed at finding America's hardest-working celebrity.

Banks beat American Idol host and DJ Ryan Seacrest, Jennifer Lopez, Heidi Klum and Sean Combs to claim the top spot on *Parade.com's* annual Summer Pop Culture poll.

The poll also claimed Oprah Winfrey as the celebrity most people would like as a next-door neighbour and Nicole Richie beat Mel Gibson and Tom Cruise to become the celebrity with the Most Improved Reputation.

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- Long wheelbase

5-STAR CRASH TEST RATING††

2008 "TOP SAFETY PICK"✧ INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY

HWY: 8.8 L/100 KM • 32.1 MPG
CITY: 13.2 L/100 KM • 21.4 MPG◆

EX model shown

5-STAR CRASH TEST RATING††

HWY: 6.3 L/100 KM • 44.8 MPG
CITY: 9.6 L/100 KM • 29.4 MPG◆

LX-V6 Luxury model shown

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- Available 5-speed Steptronic automatic transmission
- Standard six airbags
- AM/FM/CD stereo, equalizer with AUX audio inputs & steering wheel audio controls

5-STAR CRASH TEST RATING††

HWY: 7.8 L/100 KM • 36 MPG
CITY: 10.4 L/100 KM • 27 MPG◆

LX-V6 model shown

2008 Sportage OWN IT FROM

$111* AT 0% APR

BI-WEEKLY • FOR 60 MOS. • AMORT. OVER 84 MOS.
$0 DOWN PAYMENT • $5,770 REMAINING BALANCE

- 2.0 L 16-valve CVVT, or available 2.7 L 24-valve V6 engine
- Available all-wheel drive system
- Standard six airbags
- Standard Electronic Stability Control (ESC) & Traction Control System (TCS)

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